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CANADA'S

WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

Maclean's

OCTOBER 20, 1997



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From The Editor

Now, the Uncle Sam card

It was another "humiliation" for Quebec Premier Robert Bourassa called it an attack on "Quebec's democratic principles." What happened was that the nation's—as in Canada's—highest court ruled, in effect, that it was not a crime for a British Columbia grandfather to take a bus to Quebec and campaign for federalism from his leather. Such "independent spending" is outside of the codified political parties' code—but it has been an cornerstone of the No-in-Yes votes—but here he need not go to the court decisions. Now, Bourassa is prepared to invoke the Constitution's confederative notwithstanding clause and ignore the campaign restrictions anyway—all the while desecrating those sturdy federations on the court.

Another segment had a positive spin last week. Jacques (By love) Perron was with his discovery that Quebec survived as an independent nation. The reason? The existence of the North American Free Trade Agreement. The topic, according to Perron, Quebec's trade with the United States is five times greater than with the rest of Canada. And while an independent Quebec would likely lose imports from the rest of Canada, Perron noted, "it's not possible *now* a state that includes the United States. In breaking free trade, Quebec was taking the United States to protect its home English Canada."

Jumping Jacque, of course, has led to one very long conclusion—that membership in NAFTA or the Canadian-U.S. Free Trade Agreement would be automatic. A new look by one of the people who negotiated the FTA for Canada in 1986 and 1987 serves as a reminder of the challenge Quebec faces. Gordon Ritchie, Canada's former deputy chief negotiator, concluded in reading with the Elephant



Perron, since reinstated
for a key Cabinet job

Robert Lewis

Newsroom Notes:

Life at the top

When Marlene Kempster-Darkos stepped into the corner office at General Motors of Canada Ltd. three years ago, it seemed that one of the last obstacles to women's advancement in Canadian business had finally been broken. As Marlene's correspondent, Deanne McLeay observes in



this week's cover package, Kempster-Darkos is running a powerful group of women who have taken their place in the pantheon of corporate achievement. See John Shennagh

Whitaker of EDS Canada, Peggy Wilts of Royal Oak Metals and Diane McCarty of Xerox Canada, among others. "The world," says McLeay, "is not made up of what men over 40."

But for all the progress, women still make up only a tiny percentage of senior executives—and National Business Correspondent Linda Weitz, whose piece addresses the structural and attitudinal problems that remain. "The glass ceiling, a term coined in the 1970s, hasn't been shattered after all." The package, edited by Assistant Managing Editor Ross Law, begins on page 62.



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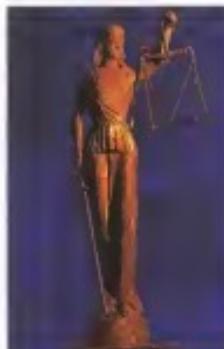
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Statue of justice: the quality of law schools

Legal education

When I was selecting which law school to attend, Osgoode Hall stood out from the rest based on its longstanding prestigious reputation and its ability to attract faculty and students. ("Judging Canadian law schools," Cover, Oct. 8). It did not take very long for me to realize that the myth of Osgoode Hall were not accurate. Even the ever-evolving legal arena and more concerned with furthering their own left-wing ideals, Osgoode falls to the bottom ranking in your survey.

C. Bryer Cole
Calgary AB

Your assessment of the quality of the legal education at the University of Ottawa is totally wrong. I am a 1995 graduate and know that I received one of the best legal educations one can receive. I cannot speak for the

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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quality of other law schools, but I know that based on my performance during articles, the bar admission course and my subsequent legal practice that I was given a legal education second to none.

Quinton Stevens,
Ottawa, ON

Most of us know that, whatever the other faculties are like, the way we graduated from was excellent. After all, it produced us. And most of us who lecture know that our delivery is excellent. It's us. So what was the relationship between the background or general position of the peers and their judgments? And if your statistician didn't measure that, why not?

B. J. Baker
Barrie, BC

When Maclean's devotes most of an issue to law schools, your readers are entitled to presume that the article will address all of the schools in the country, not only those that teach common law. Given our national preoccupation with unity and the overwhelming majority of law in Quebec is taught by anglophones as a language, I find it incomprehensible that Quebec law schools (other than McGill's National Program) have been excluded. Indeed, many of your readers may not immediately appreciate the differences in the programs of study between common law and civil law, which is in itself a topic of considerable interest.

Douglas Eby
Toronto, ON

Taxing benefits

Contrary to your report on the proposed Canada Seniors Benefit, it is wrong on two counts to suggest that "even the person that is closest to you is subject to income taxes" ("Getting ready for retirement," Cover, Sept. 28). First, the proposed Seniors Benefit is tax-free. In fact, the Seniors Benefit will be simpler. For taxpayers because it will be deducted from the tax system. It will not be subject to clawbacks. The level of benefits will automatically be recalculated each year based on the previous year's tax return. Benefits will not be recovered at tax time, and will not be taken into account when calculating refundable tax credits. Second, it is wrong to give the impression that people will pay tax on benefits that they do not receive. If a single senior's benefits were reduced to \$8,480 from the maximum \$11,480, tax would be paid on the \$8,480 because

APOLOGY

On Sept. 15, Maclean's published an article, "The charity industry." Maclean's wishes to make it clear that the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada spends in excess of 80 per cent of its revenues on charitable programs and in 1996 spent 81 per cent.

Maclean's provided incorrect information in a chart and apologize to the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada.

It is tax-free), and certainly no tax would be paid on the \$3,000 by which the benefit had been reduced—this would be ridiculous. It is true that private income will be subject to regular tax and still also serve to reduce Seniors Benefits payments. However, this is fully consistent with Canada's tax and social benefits systems. What's more, it is consistent with what Canadians have told the government is the right thing to do.

Rowe Paul Morris,
Minister of Finance,
Ottawa

I write as someone who is under 40 and wants out of the Canada Pension Plan. Allegedly, the Canadian public overwhelmingly wants to retain the plan, but anyone under 50 who sits through the mathematics of your article could not want to remain part of the CPP itself. Would the federal government rather it politely asked to leave with 1 percent? I will not send the money or force anyone (read the prostitute) to reduce family low incomes. And I'm willing to bet that'll do a lot better than the two-per-cent reduction the CPP now receives.

John Shashko
Markham, Ont., Alta. SK

Promises to keep

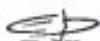
I laughed at the picture you chose to show of the Promise Keepers gathering ("Christian men on the march," World, Oct. 6)—before what the men are doing is the "march" that you sit at large gatherings. If that's OK, they also raise their hands in praise to God as well. For the men sit at there, I would encourage you to buy the tapes and listen to the message they are giving before you pass judgment. Yes, the Promise Keepers are encouraging men to be the head of the house, but only as Christ was head of the church and as Christ loves the church. I urge you to read and ask lots of questions about what this means before you quickly dismiss.

Janet McHugh-Green,
Delta, B.C. BC

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VOLVO

THE MAIL

Forced sterilization

It is frightening how some journalists continue to treat the most vulnerable people of our society as second-class citizens. In reference to forced sterilization of people with intellectual disabilities, Barbara Arel says "Still, just as it is, it pales next to compulsory sterilization on racial or ethnic grounds." ("Sweden's shameful eugenics policies," Column, Sept. 4). This attitude feeds the warped logic that a parent who murders his or her child who has intellectual disabilities is inflicting as much suffering or anguish as the child asked to die. Arel places a lesser value on certain lives compared with others, thus rendering their tales on a lesser condemnation.

Garth Broad
Toronto, Ont.

The policy of forced sterilization is certainly indefensible in any country, but to equate Sweden's eugenics with a jungle savagery that the country is the world's centre of moral relativism and that its government failed to see the moral difference between the Third Reich and the Allies during the Second World War is simply preposterous. Arel bases her argument on a 25-year-old

book on "Totalitarian Sweden," which shows a surprising insensitivity to the rapid changes most European societies have gone through since then. The purpose of the article is ideological and has nothing to do with Sweden's eugenics policies.

Russell Cook
Lethbridge, S.D.

Return to Barbara Arel for her sensitive and insightful analysis of Sweden's forced-sterilization scandal. The rationale behind Sweden's eugenics programs, even more than that behind similar sources in other countries (including Canada), is frighteningly similar to the eugenics planning of Hitler's Nazis, to which Arel alludes in her column. Of course, this kind of warped thinking does not seem at first surprising in stable, liberal Sweden. I would add that Sweden's ethos has proven equally devastating to the traditional family and the values associated with it, including religious values. As examples, some researchers have found Sweden's "couple dissolution" rate is among the world's highest, state paternity routinely designates marriage, most child-rearing takes place in state-run day-care centres, and Swedish church attendance is among the lowest in Europe. Clear-

ly, this eugenics scandal is one sign of a basic spiritual sickness in Swedish society. It should serve as a warning to those who see socialist Sweden as a utopia to be emulated in other countries.

Christopher Fox Lane
Montreal, Que. H3

The 'real' Diana

"A son for all seasons," your article on "Diana, Princess of Wales," in the Sept. 15 issue (Cover) was incredibly moving. It embodied Diana better than any writer, in my opinion. I have been a Diana fan for years, since her trip to Kingston, Ont., in 1991, and have read anything I can get my hands on about her since her tragic death. Your article has helped my grieving process and I only wish that more people could have access to it. I believe that whether she is canonized officially does not matter. We good people of the world, in our hearts, know who she was and where she is now, and she will never be forgotten. I also know that I have now become a regular Diana's admirer.

Kim Bayley-Faynes
Vancouver, B.C.

As Canadian fans in B.C. we always look forward to receiving our weekly *Aboriginal*. We want to congratulate you on writing the very balanced articles we have read regarding Diana's untimely death; you can hold your heads high knowing you were able to keep focus when all those around you seemed to have lost theirs. I hope others were encouraged to take a reality check about Diana's life and what role she played in their lives, as I was after reading your articles, without diminishing our admiration of her.

Alice Givens
Vancouver, B.C.



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THE MAIL

Gender equality

While I usually make it a point to avoid Barbara Amiel's right-wing tirade, I found myself reading her column "How gender policies threaten freedom" (Oct. 10) just to see how odious it could possibly be. I was blown away. Is it a world where women are regularly beaten and raped in their homes and where women in the workforce still earn little more than 70 cents to every dollar earned by men, the suggestion that we have gained equality is ridiculous. The statement that we are now the "preferred gender" is not only preposterous, but dangerous. Amiel poses the question about what the late John Borlase would have been if he had insisted in his wife's body, and the answer is really very simple—he had been leading and controlling his wife for years, and what had happened to her? Nothing. This is the typical line of the abuser. It is possibly obvious that women do not control the system that continues to cause them suffering and exploitation.

John Sagnier,
Regina, Oct. 16

Alternative doctoring

In case some readers are left with the impression that we have solved the problem of access to alternative medicine—Ottawa, that is from the top ("Freedom of choice," Health, Oct. 6), the Ontario College of Physicians has thumbtacked its issue at the democratic process by calling the alternative medicine bill that Helped design a "threat to health." Not only is it continuing to prosecute Dr. Jean King for practicing alternative methods, but it is also targeting some additional alternative doctors. Considering causation members continue to refuse to associate with our citizen groups, we will be forced to, at the very least, lobby for further legislation that could replace the college with an up-to-date body.

Dee Groves,
Toronto, Oct. 16



The Road Ahead

How business cheats the young

A powerful undertone is building as workers find themselves disenfranchised and disengaged. The type of economic gloom and high unemployment has convinced many people that they are lucky to have any job at all. Business has taken advantage of such inacquiesce and moved to take down the wall in the workplace. It is vital to believe that minimum wage and basic labor legislation offer any protection. Business has begun to flourish once more.

Consider the young Manitoba student working as a front-desk clerk in a 7-11 room-mate class hotel. A typical shift is 3 p.m. to 11 p.m., most of which is spent in the solo staff person in the hotel. No manager, no supervisor, no maintenance or house-keeper personnel, as well as no break and no dinner hour. She is expected to take the phone along when she goes to the bathroom. A management policy of overbooking requires that she shuffle duty customers and make decisions necessary to soothe their anger. For all this, she receives minimum wage.

In another case, an hourly paid maintenance employee was given a "promotion," which included the duty of appointing all employee tips—on his own time. He typically worked seven to 10 days in a row and was frequently asked to stay after a nine- or 10-hour shift to clean up a work station without pay. When he eventually requested a long-overdue change of assignment and began to refuse unpaid work, he was labelled a "high-maintenance employee" and had to leave the job to see an improvement in his situation.

Betty Storie,
Chancery Portage, Man.

These are not isolated cases. Employers are ignoring labor regulations regarding minimum hours, and are finding their way around minimum-wage laws. They are forcing unacceptable flexibility upon young workers to accommodate incompetent management and poor shift-planning.

In many instances, employers are hiring excessive numbers of part-time employees and repositioning full-time hours to meet. Such practices ensure that the employer will have unlimited flexibility for the employee, such practices ensure that young workers cannot hope to be self-supporting and will find it necessary to continually live with parents. Ironically, such living conditions accommodate their "minimum wage" wages and increase their tolerance for such abuse.

Industry's self-serving demands show no sign of abating. While costing an enormous amount of low morale, no job security and little employee loyalty, employers assign government the responsibility for training in specific, and sometimes non-transferrable, skills. In short, few feel any obligation to invest in the workers they have systematically developed.

Industry must come to understand that its own good health is dependent upon "the loyalty and goodwill" of reliable, well-trained front-line employees," in Doris McMurdy's put it in *The Borlase Line* (Sept. 21). And the Health of Canada requires that industry recognise its obligation to the welfare of the country that nurtures it. The future must reflect more securely than the social safety net.

The Road Ahead series explores the advance specific to Canada's political, social and economic interests. Subsequent submissions will be accepted on topics before or after an appearance in a previous instalment.

Maclean's

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Another View



Charles Gordon

When bigger is not necessarily better

The bedeviled consumer goes thousands of miles spread out before him; there are many choices upon which to sit down; more flavors of coffee than he ever dreamed possible. Just down the street, there is another store—more books, more candy choices, and this time, wine and beer. And next, who knows? Booksellers with coffee and beer and wine—and what?—acupuncture, perhaps, or bullfighting. Anything can happen in our modern economy. Anything, that is, except the survival of anything small.

The signs are all around us that big money creates bigger money and that little money disappears. The signs are all around us that no one can compete if it's involved. The bad news is our own.

Last in the agents' ranks. In the baseball playoffs, the teams with the biggest payrolls were there—Florida, Atlanta, Baltimore, the New York Yankees. The baseball teams (and in the Montreal region) that elected not to compete in signing expensive free agents seem, as they say in the sports world, on the golf course. Because of their unwillingness or inability to pay \$10-million salaries, those teams face extinction. Their players heading off to larger and considerably greener pastures.

"Small market teams," they are called, although it is difficult to consider places such as Montreal and Pittsburgh small. We have already seen some of those smaller market teams disappear from the National Hockey League, the teams in Quebec City and Wilkes-Barre having to close when bigger arenas, richer owners and fatter television contracts are available. Indications are that the process has not ended there. We will see more teams go away, some of them Canadian, because they cannot afford the outgoings both for star players that hit the headlines every day from places like Philadelphia and New York. "The teams that spend the money end up winning," is how the general manager of the Philadelphia Flyers, Bob Clarke, put it the other day.

Players make ridiculous salaries, cities with such hockey institutions cannot afford to have teams, which move to such hockey meccas as North Carolina and Arizona. The process is destined to eliminate fans, and some evidence of that is being seen at the box office. But the process of elimination is not complete. The fans still turn out, still have on the television, still buy the team sweatshirts and wristbands. Whatever is needed to bring the players and owners to the arena has yet to materialize. If nothing changes, hockey will become bigger, less affordable and more remote.

It would be wonderful to be able to restore the innocent and happy relationship between the home team and its fans. Many of us grew up with it in an unadulterated way; it was at the polls of childhood. But the young sports fan now, if it is safe to say, is worldly wise,

fully conversant with the ways of owners and agents, endorsements and corporate boxes. The sign of pure here would is over, which may please the kind of people who don't like Santa Claus much, but it is not for the rest of us.

Hockey is not alone in becoming bigger and more remote. The neighborhood sporting goods store goes under when a superstore opens up. Independent bookstores fight the thread pond by the giant Chapters stores, and now the great hedge stores stand mighty after that—as soon as the Liberal government bows its arrow—the giant Barnes & Noble stores from the United States. The software computer store (that ancient institution) suffers at the hands of the "big-box" outfit on the outskirts of town. In one case, the line is the same, more variety, discounted prices. The line of the neighborhood operator—friendly, service, knowledgeable staff, and the neighborhood itself—doesn't seem to have the necessary drawing power.

Bigness itself may be a factor. Watch the attention block to the mega-mass-media—*Playboy* of the Gyrene, Showboat, Miss Universe—despite their megaprofits. And watch smaller-scale theatre, where the real creativity is lost to motion picture and cable, struggle to break even.

In all walks of life, bigness sells. And bigness gets bigger. Anyone who has followed the trend over the years knows at least two things about it. First, it represents the natural inclination of the free enterprise system. Second, it is not being tested upon a unwilling consumer. The consumer is a willing accomplice.

While protecting the small businessman is an article of faith among political parties, particularly at election time, today's politics is thoroughly wedded with the myth of the market. The market is wise, if the market makes it happen, it is good. If the market takes the team away at lots the little store, too bad, but hey, that's the market.

So don't count on politicians to help. Which leaves ourselves. As consumers, we have become as enslaved as government and business to the myth of the bottom line. At the level of the individual, it means that it's cheaper, bigger. Never mind that it's cheap because it's being charged across the border by a multinational or dominated by a large domestic company to drive the local guy out of business. It is on sale and off we go. Eventually and inevitably, our destinations are bigger and further from the neighborhood. But we don't seem to mind.

It may be that this is what we want: a world of superstars and superagents (we are also getting superarchs and superhospitals, you will notice). It's that's what we want, fine. It's what we're getting. If what we want is something else, we have to know that the power to change it is ours and ours alone.

Opening Notes

BY KATHARINE WICKENS

Wough raising
money for young
AIDS victims

Big heart and the biggest art

When artist Eric Wrough decided to create the world's largest painting to raise money for charity, he initially addressed the scope of the project. "My first thoughts were, 'How big can it be? It won't last long,'" He now knows better. Since the amateur artist from suburban Montreal began painting in April, he has finished about one-eighth of his proposed 7,200-square-centimetre project. When completed, it will be the size of an Olympic medium, and will be covered with 1,600 litres of paint. Working in a warehouse with donated materials, 35-year-old Wrough uses a power sprayer to quickly paint each 1.5 square-metre panel. When the nearly 2,200 panels

are completed by Wltnro, they will form a replica of *Rome*, the artist's 1996 poster of a panel with an arm around a child, which has raised \$50,000 for camps for children affected by HIV/AIDS in the United States. In all, he hopes to raise \$5 million for the cause—and his painting is a big part of that plan. Wrough, a married father of three young children, wants to lay it out at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum during a musical-artistical event that he is trying to organize for AIDS Awareness Day next June. Later this month, he will meet with promoters and potential sponsors in Los Angeles to raise money for materials to finish the painting and to start planning the special day. But, for now, he has another concern. "I'm really hoping," says Wrough, "no one comes along and does a bigger painting before I do."

Seating to spare

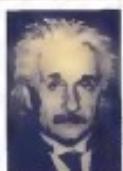
A year ago, airlines flying from North America to Asia were warning travellers to look early for trips accompanying with Hong Kong's return to Chinese rule. Predicting that interest in the July 1 takeover would translate into packed planes, many airlines, including the city's state-owned flag carrier, Cathay Pacific, demanded payment in full—usually about \$1,200—months in advance. How times have changed—the airline travel group travel rules never did materialize. Instead, some carriers saw traffic drop by as much as 67 per cent on some routes in July from previous years. In a recent letter to the airline's staff, Cathay Pacific managing director David Tarzwell noted that traffic was

falling—usually about \$800—months in advance. How times have changed—the airline travel group travel rules never did materialize. Instead, some carriers saw traffic drop by as much as 67 per cent on some routes in July from previous years. In a recent letter to the airline's staff, Cathay Pacific managing director David Tarzwell noted that traffic was

down throughout Northeast Asia, resulting in "the lowest revenue per passenger revenue in decades." Now says Tarzwell, "we are a bit more sanguine about the future." We must be mindful of the possibility that the situation will remain difficult for some time to come." Hong Kong, in general, may be heading under Canadian rule, but at least one high-flier has been brought a little closer to earth.

Dissecting his genius

The bizarre autopsy of Albert Einstein 42 years ago has a Canadian connection. When Einstein died in 1955, New Jersey pathologist Dr. Thomas Harvey removed the renowned physicist's brain without permission. Harvey later lost his job at Princeton Hospital for refusing to turn over the brain (he keeps it in formaldehyde in a Tupperware container). Now, in this month's *Canadian Medical History*, Harvey reveals to freelance writer Michael Paterson that he has given about one-third of the brain to S. O. Arias-Carrión, a psychiatrist at McMaster University in Hamilton. Harvey, 87, has participated with his medical colleagues after meeting her in 1996. Wltnro, however, is reluctant to talk. She originally told Paterson that Harvey's claims were "unfounded," implying she did not have a piece of the brain. But now Wltnro has acknowledged to MacLean's that she has "a major portion of cerebral areas of Einstein's brain." Her response was in a brief e-mail, and she has declined requests for an interview. Her e-mail message concluded: "It is difficult for me to give additional information and results for in the published scientific domain." Einstein's brain still lingers some deep thinking.



Einstein's grey matter

Cryptic, never clueless

I take a special sort of intellect to create cryptic puzzles—read-behind teasers with clues relying on puns and other wordplay—and Fraser Simpson clearly has that sort of mind. The 35-year-old Toronto high-school math teacher is one of just a few dozen professional cryptic creators in North America. Simpson, who began creating crosswords at high school, has contributed to a variety of publications. Since April 1994, his puzzles have appeared every Saturday in *The Globe and Mail*. Then, when editor at *The New Yorker* decided to introduce a weekly cryptic, they turned to Simpson. Since June, he has been in charge of puzzles at the New York City-based magazine, creating a crossword a month and editing others' contributions. With some puzzles requiring up to 10 hours work, it can be a time-consuming sideline. "It really depends," Simpson says, "on whether I'm trying to be really clever, or whether I've had a bad week." That leaves little time spare time for hockey, volleyball and (what else?) Scrabble.

Les québécois in New England

The city of Worcester, R.I., has had its share of hard times. Then since the textile mills that once made it a bountiful setting 60 years ago, it has been in a bust. But the townfolk are capitalizing on another part of Worcester's history to give it a shot in the arm: its French-Canadian heritage. More than half its 40,000 residents are descendants of French Quebecers who left Canada in the late 19th century to find work in New England. Their story is being told as part of a \$30-million museum that opened last week in a former textile mill. Pleasantly, that 30,000 visitors a year will pay \$7 each to see *The Museum of Work and Culture*, whose exhibits illustrate the history of unions and labour. One traces the evolution of French-Canadian, mainly Immigrant farmers, who floated down the rivers looking for jobs, and their efforts to keep their language alive. French is spoken mostly by the older generation now, but until the 1950s Worcester was known as the most French-speaking town in New England, with French schools, churches and a daily newspaper, *Le Journal*. People used to say this isn't an American city, it's really part of Canada," says Cheri Quintal, director of the Institut Franco-américain Worcester, Mass. "The museum has become a kind of symbol that they haven't had."

The Dionnes wait for the past to pay

Two weeks before he became Ontario premier in June, Mike Harris agreed to something the surviving Dionne quintuplets had been seeking to complete compensation for the famous Quintuplet Baby Boom in North Bay, Ont., in 1934, the five world-famous babies were made worth of Ontario. They have created an estimated \$200 million in tourism as thousands flocked to see them at Quintuplet, a government-operated park. Now, the three surviving sisters, Yvonne, Anne and Cecile, are back in substance. Montreal on a limited income. Since 1994, they have been asking the Ontario government for compensation—and they believe Harris would provide it. In a letter to Cecile's son, Bernhard Dennis Langlois, Harris wrote that if he was in a position to address the issue after the election, their

request would "be given our full attention."

But according to Carla Taris, a Dionne family spokesman, there has been no progress. A spokesperson for the Ontario attorney general says the case "remains under consideration," but is a complicated legal matter. A frustrated Taris says that the Dionnes expected more from Harris, a fellow North Bay native. "He knows the story inside out."



Dionne, Anne and Cecile Dionne: provincial compensation

BEST-SELLERS

FICtION

- 1 *Bitter Roots*, Andrew Foster (D)
- 2 *Lucky Patri*, Coal Mouth (D)
- 3 *Big Book*, Betty Smith (D)
- 4 *Madame Tussaud*, Sue Monk Kidd (D)
- 5 *The Last Best Thing*, Jonathan Ray (D)
- 6 *Angel at My Table*, Gail Carriger (D)
- 7 *When the Rain Falls*, Pauline Kael (D)
- 8 *Whale Rider*, Elizabeth Isley (D)

MEDiCiNiON

- 1 *How to Protect Your Peopple's Health*, Paul O'Connor (D)
- 2 *The Big Book*, Betty Smith (D)
- 3 *The Big Little Book of Health*, Wendy Roberts (D)
- 4 *Angels Within*, Frank McCourt (D)
- 5 *How to Eat, Drink, and Be Healthy*, Walter Willett (D)
- 6 *Smart Choices*, Jennifer Skerrett (D)
- 7 *Smart Nutrition*, Jennifer Skerrett (D)
- 8 *How to Cook Smart*, Diane Price (D)
- 9 *The Big Book*, Betty Smith (D)
- 10 *Smart Choices*, Jennifer Skerrett (D)
- 11 *Smart Nutrition*, Jennifer Skerrett (D)

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OBiTi Singer Jimmy Ferguson, 57, of the popular Worcester-based group the Irish Flames, in his studio in a hotel room while the folk band was on tour in Worcester, Mass. Ferguson, who founded the group with brothers Bill and George Miller and their cousin Joe Miller, in 1954. They had their first big hit in 1968 with *The Jockey*, a song they later gave to a small chain of pubs they co-owned. The group had two more hits with Ferguson as lead singer, *What A Party!* in 1960, and the 1982 Christmas song *Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer*.

OBiTi Indy-car racer Paul Tracy, 28, of Toronto, from his position as driver for Team Penske and the PPG-CART series, in San Diego, Calif. No reason was given for the dismissal, which leaves Tracy, who finished fifth in the 1997 drivers' standings, scrambling to find a team for next year. He will be replaced by Andre Ribeiro, a 31-year-old Brazilian who finished in 14th place, in the Penske car.

EXTRaDiTiOn Toronto administrative assistant Dennis Hurley, 32, to Mexico to stand trial for first-degree murder. Mexican authorities charged Hurley after his law, landscape architect Murray Hugh, 46, aka of Toronto, was found dead in April, 1995, when the two were vacationing in San Miguel de Allende, northwest of Mexico City. Hurley left for Mexico after deciding not to appeal a ruling by an Ontario Court of Appeal panel in June that he extradition did not breach the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

FINeDi Former screen siren and animal rights activist Brigitte Bardot, 63, for violating local laws after she criticized the Muslim slaughter of sheep in April, 1996, \$2,200, by a court in Paris, which also ordered her to pay a symbolic 25 cents to the human rights groups that sued her.

OBiTi Professional wrestler Brian Pillman, 35, a former lifethresher with the CFL's Calgary Stampeders, in a fatal road in Rosedale, Miss.

OBiTi Former Cincinnati Reds pitcher Jeffry Vanier, 38, who in 1938 became the only major leaguer ever to throw consecutive no-hitters, from an abdominal aneurysm, at his home in Tampa, Fla.

Passages

McKenna calls it quits

BY BRIAN BERGMAN

In political circles, the glass-walled building in downtown Fredericton where Frank McKenna toiled for 20 years as New Brunswick premier was sometimes known as "Results 7-11." The moniker referred to McKenna's penchant for beginning his work day at dawn's early light and returning on the job well into the evening hours. He was, by his own frequent admission, a man obsessed—a总理 who fretted over every detail during his tenure, from waging the good fight on national unity to designing a custom New Brunswick logo for all government stationery. In announcing his resignation last week, McKenna said it was "like I have the weight of the world off my shoulders," adding that he looked forward to raising up for lost years with his wife, Julie, and their three children. So, is one of Canada's best-known premiers finally ready to stop and smell the roses? Presented with that question in an interview with Marlene's, McKenna smiled, then tightly chuckled. "I'm going to have to think about that," he said.

McKenna's self-improvement regimen began this week, as Oct. 13—appropriately enough, Thanksgiving day—marked as premier, leader of the New Brunswick Liberal party and MLA for the riding of Miramichi-Say-du-Vin. His future plans remained vague—the 65-year-old McKenna joked last week about posting his resume at the nearest Canada-Manpower centre. But he swiftly sought several named appointments, including one that would see him serve as one of Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's point men on the national stage. He also discussed the widely held view in Ottawa that he has eyes ultimately on the leadership of the federal Liberal party. "There's no sense that that needs quashing," he told Marlene's. "Whatever that I had been given."

In New Brunswick, at least, his words on that matter are taken largely at face value. Longtime friends and associates insist that McKenna has little desire to become prime minister and that, in fact, he may be inherently wrong for the job. They point out that McKenna's obsessively hands-on style of governing worked well in a small, disjointed province of only 780,000 people, but would drive both the leader and his followers to distraction if he had to juggle the in-

terests of over 30 million Canadians from widely disparate regions. Others note that McKenna—who as notoriously frugal as private life as he was in managing the province's finances—is probably eager to capitalize on what promises to be some productive years in the private sector. "My guess," says Donald Savoie, a professor of public administration at the University of Moncton and a friend of McKenna's, "is that he'll open a law practice in Fredericton, perhaps associated with a law firm in Toronto, or on five or six major corporate boards—and make money."

And the intense speculation about McKenna's personal future last week, there was also a growing recognition of how profoundly his presence had changed during his years in office. His supporters credited McKenna with giving New Brunswickers a renewed sense of purpose and optimism, putting the government's previously dismal fiscal house in order, and bringing hundreds of new enterprises and thousands of jobs to the province through his relentless promotion of New Brunswick as a place to do business. His detractors argued that New Brunswickers had paid too steep a price for the so-called McKenna miracle. They maintained that the gap between the rich and the poor had never been so great, or the holes in the province's social safety net so severe. In a scathing critique following his resignation, McKenna seemed to acknowledge there might be some truth to both versions. "Compared to 10 years ago, he said, the province is better off. He then added: "I don't think all of the people in the province are better off."

McKenna was given free rein to reshape New Brunswick in his own image in 1987 when, as his first election as party leader, the Liberals won all 55 seats in the legislature. It was a heady time for McKenna, who had grown up on a dairy farm and possessed criminal law in rural New Brunswick before first winning a seat in the provincial legislature in 1982. (Three years later, he won the leadership of the Liberal party, just as the then-dominant Conservative government of Richard Hatfield was beginning to implode after years of scandal and financial profligacy.)

McKenna started to look at ways to diversify the economy beyond such traditional pillars as forestry, mining and fishing. He hit upon the information technology sector as one that could flourish in even the remotest corner of the continent and that might well be attracted by the province's low labor and land costs as well as its bilingual workforce. He then embarked on his now-famous broad array of leadership—cold-calling corporate executives to sing New Brunswick's praises, plug his 1,800 McKenna hotlines during press conferences, and crosscountry on promotional trips that proved to be effective since his fellow premiers accorded him no position on their tour. Those efforts netted big fish—among them

The deficit is gone, but New Brunswick faces lingering social problems



Puritan Courier Ltd., Fredericton Express Co. Ltd. and CP Express & Transport)—and what the government claims are 7,000 new jobs in provincial call centres.

On a separate front, McKenna, who inherited a \$35-billion budget deficit from the Conservatives, launched a concerted attack on government spending. Provincial departments were consolidated and the number of deputy ministers cut in half; 3,700 civil servants lost their jobs and the rest faced temporary wage freezes. The number of school board seats fell from 210 to just two, encompassing 24 districts. The province's 52 hospital boards were consolidated into eight regional agencies and the growth in health-care spending dropped from 11 per cent 1987 to under one per cent in 1997. The net effect: New Brunswick, despite taking a \$20-billion annual cut in federal transfer payments, became the first province in Canada to deliver a balanced budget in fiscal 1994-1995. It has been running in the black ever since, albeit with an accumulated debt of \$5.3 billion.

Savoye observes that, throughout it all, McKenna acted more like the chief executive officer of the province than its premier. "He didn't have it in his interests or inclination to identify the savings," says

Savoye. "He dove into the expenditure budget and literally sequenced it. No detail was too small." Savoye credits McKenna with being the first premier to recognize the pitfalls of deficit financing, and for having the balls to do what most political budgets cutters such as Alberta's Stéphane Dion and Ontario's Mike Harris' McKenna's efforts are also widely praised by members of the New Brunswick business community. "Before McKenna, people weren't that entrepreneurial, of being competitive globally," says André McDonald, one of these New Brunswicks partners who established MCN Technologies Inc., a fast-growing computer software company. "Today people feel they can be as good as anyone outside New Brunswick."

At the most basic level, though, the view of the McKenna regime is almost as benign. Criticize out that, for all the above shortcomings, the province's unemployment rate has not barely budged—it was 12.4 per cent in August, 1997. 11.9 per cent in September, 1997. As so dismantling, they say, is the fact that New Brunswick provides the lowest level of social assistance in the country—and that McKenna openly and the lure of low wages to attract corporations to the province. "The government showed little or no interest in people at

McKenna with
wife Julie. "Whatever
that I had has
been quantified"

CANADA

the low end at the top scale," says Bruce Perkins-McKinnon, a United Church minister and Federation-based anti-poverty activist. "He crafted an attractive place for certain employers, but that was on the backs of their workers."

There were other undesirable strands. While the government has had no hospital closures, New Brunswick Nurses Union president Linda Silcox says that there has been a reduction of more than 700 nursing positions since 1993. A union survey last year found that 60 per cent of nurses believed starting levels were inadequate and those work loads posed a risk to patients. Silcox says that a recently completed public survey shows that 76 per cent agree hospitals are understaffed. "The premier was an excellent politician," says Silcox. "He wanted a balanced budget and he got it. But the health care has been hit too hard."

Public anger has also erupted over the province's attempt to close down schools in response to dwindling enrollment. But despite the contentious wrangling changes, McKenna and his government remained remarkably popular. The Liberals were defeated marginally again in 1991 and 1995 (they currently hold 37 seats, compared with 42 for the Tories and one for the NDP). And whoever succeeds McKenna—deputy premier Ray Prestett will fill the post until a leadership convention is held, likely next spring—faces an enviable situation. The latest poll, taken in August by Corporate Research Associates, showed the Liberals commanding 55 per cent support among decided voters, compared with 20 per cent for the NDP and 18 per cent for the currently leaderless Tories.

If there was one issue that friends and associates believed would keep McKenna in office, it was the recession national unity file. He campaigned in 1987 on a promise to hold open hearings on the Meech Lake accord because of concerns over lack of protection for women's and minority voting rights. While he eventually supported the accord, his early opposition allowed more vociferous opponents such as Newfoundland Premier Clyde Wells the time they needed to kill the deal. Ever since, McKenna has been one of the most prominent advocates of reconciliation with Quebec, most recently by helping to spearhead last month's so-called Calgary accord.

But McKenna has clearly concluded that the fiscal unity imbroglio is much bigger than open mail, and chose to put his priorities elsewhere. His wife, Julie, spoke candidly with reporters last week about how McKenna's increased work habits meant that he simply wasn't there for many of the important events and decisions in the lives of their children, Tobias, 24, Charlotte, 22, and James, 20. She and she also worried about the toll on his health due to stress and lack of sleep. In typical fashion, perhaps, McKenna told MacLean's that what he called "my rehabilitation" would begin this week with "some really aggressive exercise." As well, he said he would be spending his first day as premier back at his desk, poring over "some continuing economic development files." For a man so obviously dedicated to his job, recovery will come one step at a time. □

The pressure years

McKenna's Alberta Bureau Chief Brian Regester spoke to Premier Frank McKenna four days prior to his resignation announcement and again the day after he disclosed his decision to leave. Excerpts:

MacLean's: You are known as a mission-driven pursuit of jobs. We often say that you have a mission of more than 700 nursing positions since 1993. A union survey last year found that 60 per cent of nurses believed starting levels were inadequate and those work loads posed a risk to patients. Silcox says that a recently completed public survey shows that 76 per cent agree hospitals are understaffed. "The premier was an excellent politician," says Silcox. "He wanted a balanced budget and he got it. But the health care has been hit too hard."

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McKenna: This country can and will survive.

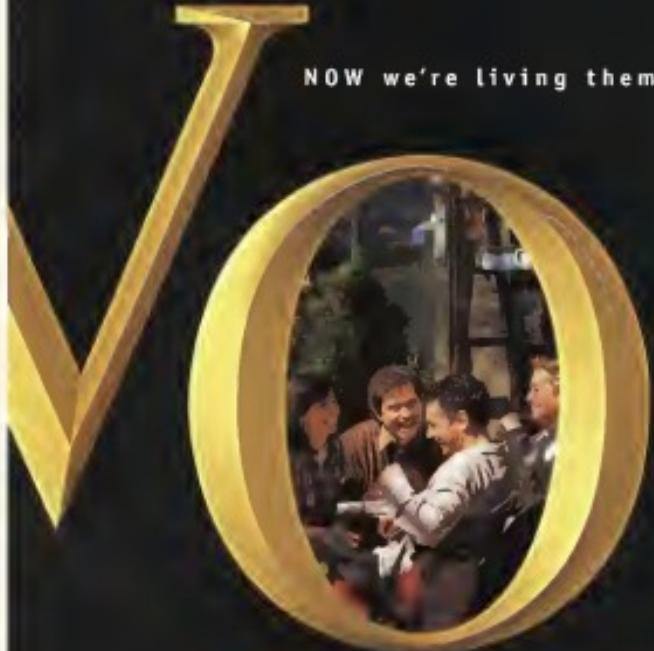
jobs, and mechanization of the forest industry, which is the cornerstone of our economy, also takes its toll. All of that has really sucked domestic demand. It's been like trying to run up hill with two bags of iron. For every step you take forward, you slide back half a step.

MacLean's: Your critics say you have shown some concern for the fiscal welfare here then for the effect your policies have on people. How do you respond?

McKenna: We don't enter public life to be hurtful to people and we don't intent to become unpopular. We want to do good. But we realized that we didn't have the courage to act. New Brunswickers would go deeper and

BACK THEN we had our dreams,

NOW we're living them.



Like friendship, crafted with care.





CANADA

Zero tolerance

It is not the kind of scholastic environment that any Canadian parent would welcome their child. When students began returning to Cole Harbour District High School last Friday after a week's enforced absence, they were greeted with five security patrols, each headed by a uniformed RCMP officer. Security measures had also been placed in strategic spots to monitor potential troublemakers. The 950 students at the high school, on the eastern outskirts of Halifax, have been further warned that any assault, act of defiance or disrespect will result in immediate suspension. Those suspensions are part of a so-called zero-tolerance policy aimed at curbing the racially charged violence that has periodically erupted at the school over the past decade, culminating in a riot involving black and white students and parents on Oct. 2 that led to the temporary closure of Cole Harbour. "It's time to reclaim the school," declared Don Trider, superintendent of the Halifax Regional School Board. "We have to create an environment that has a chance of succeeding."

There is a long history of conflict at Cole Harbour, stemming as long ago from friction between the very diverse communities it serves. The school draws its students from North Preston, a predominantly black and impoverished corner of the Halifax region, and from Eastern Passage, a mostly white working-class suburb. Cole Harbour first gained national headlines in 1988 when a snowball fight resulted in a brief prison-style student lockdown days after about

25 white and black students clashed violently over missing drug money. Two raciohostile; 30 police officers used pepper spray and batons to break up a fight at a Christmas dance that began with a dispute between two girls, one black, the other white.

But that peace brought the remedy's annoy. On Oct. 1, a black student and a white classmate engaged in a minor hallway fight. Later that afternoon, about 60 students, both white and black, refused to return to class and began verbally assaulting school staff. Taking a tough line, Cole Harbour principal Gary Garry (he has suspended more than a dozen students)

The following day, the parents of the suspended students brought their children back to the school. While Harbin was meeting with some of the parents, someone set off a school fire alarm. Fights broke out as hundreds of students poured into the schoolyard. Then, for about 30 students, parents and staff rushed back into the school's offices. Over the next few minutes, one parent (an aboriginal teacher) was struck in the face by one of the suspended students and racial epithets like "cotton ball" and "white trash" filled the air. "People were screaming and yelling down the halls," said one Grade 10 student who witnessed the fracas. "Teachers were crying. It was crazy."

Educational officials decided to shut down the school immediately and consult parents

A Nova Scotia high school copes with racism

On guard at Cole Harbour: surveillance cameras and the threat of suspensions

and teachers about the next course of action. Teachers voted they forced to leave suddenly. Most parents supported such strict, tougher disciplinary measures. But first, if any, favored an option usually favored by superintendent Trider—simply closing Cole Harbour for the rest of the year and dispersing its students to other schools.

In addition to the new security and discipline measures put into effect that work, officials took other steps that they say will give them a firmer grip over students at Cole Harbour. These included imposing a shorter school day, with classes now beginning at 8 a.m. and ending at 2:45 p.m. There will be no recess or free periods and last academic time will be made up at the end of the semester. At the same time, the Halifax Regional School Board voted to implement all 12 recommendations of a report delivered earlier this year by Mount Saint Vincent University professor Bill Frank, who had examined racial tensions at Cole Harbour. Among his suggestions: hire more visible minority teachers, add anti-racism courses and launch a literacy campaign. Ironically, the school board had received the report just two weeks earlier, holding at its estimated \$200,000 price tag.

Not everyone is enthused by the school board's battle plan. Voicing a concern raised by many parents, North Preston resident Madeline Carr, who has a 10-year-old son at Cole Harbour, sees the shorter school day as a cop-out. "Where will the kids go after school with so much free time?" she asks. "The problem is being transferred off the school property." Carr is also leery of how the "zero-tolerance" rule will be applied. "I don't think any son, if he is described himself as being racist, would feel if three kids punch him in the head," she says. "They passed the test who start the fight, not the kid who gets beaten up."

Others warn that the racial tensions on display at Cole Harbour are rooted in divisions between North Preston and Eastern Passage that date back to more than a century. Marlene Stinson is a black resident of North Preston who has a son in Grade 10 at Cole Harbour and four other children who have attended the school. Her son's parents, both white and black, once shared the blame for fostering hatred. "It's what they learn at home," he says. "It's the way it's always been. But now we need the communities to sit down and talk about it." If the patrols and our vigilante measures are ever to leave Cole Harbour, Stinson's advice will have to be heeded.

BRIAN BERGMAN with JUANITA HILLIER in Halifax

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GO

Canon

A new ball game

Ontario's Mike Harris shuffles his cabinet

The pols are down, the federal Liberals have just swept Ontario and the revolutionary changes have been so fast and furious that they have created the perception of a government in chaos. What is a premier to do? Shuffle the deck, Mike Harris decided, after spending the summer pondering those problems. Late last week, he did just that, announcing a full-scale cabinet makeover intended to underscore the continuing Tories' desire to present a more moderate face to the province—while leaving the impression of a government firmly in control. In all, seven portfolios changed hands. And with the possibility of a teachers' strike on the horizon, the most high-profile appointment was in education, with former management board chairman David Johnson, the Tories' point man in previous labour disputes, replacing John Snobelen. "The government is making the appropriate change at a given, from best to worst, list of change to ensure that the change is implemented in the most politically sensitive way," said interim Tory Hugh Segal. "Often the people who are the agents of change are not the best people to do the consolidation."

In the case of the education portfolio, that may be an understatement. Snobelen was responsible for introducing Bill 160, the 282-page act intended to radically alter the face of education in Ontario. Most controversially, it gives new powers to the education minister—excluding the right to set education taxes, more control over how money is spent, and the authority to determine which firms do class sizes. But Snobelen, a Grade 11 dropout who was a businessman before entering provincial politics in 1996, himself became a focal point, with the battle between him and the province's five teachers' unions focusing on personality as much as issues. "Snobelen

was the problem because no one trusted him," said Ontario Teachers' Federation president Karen Lennox. And she expressed cautious optimism over Johnson's appointment: "He has a reputation as a straight shooter who can solve problems," Lennox said. "We hope that's true."

That was certainly the case being put on



Ontario
Premier
Mike Harris
shuffles
the cabinet

last week's change, with Johnson presented as a tough-minded, fair negotiator—the Tories' Mr. Fixit. But others who have gone head to head with him issued a warning in 1996. Leah Cassels led the 67,000-member Ontario Public Service Employees Union in a five-week strike against the government's plan to lay off 13,000 civil servants. The resulting settlement, with Johnson

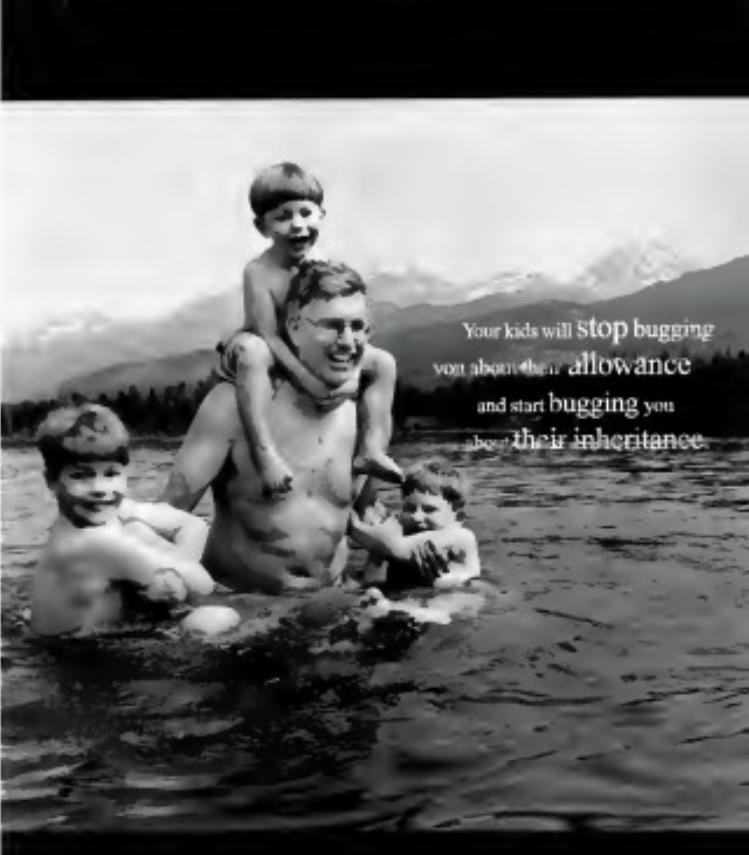
sitting down OPSERU, was widely viewed as a draw. "He's a formidable opponent—I have a lot of respect for his abilities," says Cassels, who has been OPSERU president since April 1995. "I think the teachers, although they're evaluating the decision of Snobelen, have valid data the last 10 days."

But Ontario's teachers are also promising to resist. "As long as Bill 160 is in presentation form is on the table," Lennox noted, "we will continue to be in a confrontational situation." The question, then, is how much the Tories are prepared to compromise. The answer from senior party strategists last week was, not much—apart from a long-term commitment that funds saved in the education sector would be reinvested. Johnson's value, added one senior Tory, was as a communicator who could explain the government's position to the public. "Snobelen," he said, "did a better job than most people would give him credit for, but he was unable to connect with the public."

With the Opposition Liberals now leading the Tories by as much as 20 points in the polls, the need for communication—and compromise—drove other Ontario cabinet changes last week. As well as designating Snobelen to Natural Resources, Harris passed Jim Wilson out of the big-profile health portfolio and into the newly created ministry of energy, science and technology, replacing him with former labour minister Elizabeth Wimmer Wilson, said one Tory strategist, noting, "that kind of steady hand at the wheel" that made the participants in the health-care system feel comfortable during a period of immense change.

Insiders say Harris was disengaged to learn that Wilson had had a temper tantrum at a recent meeting with members of the Ontario Hospital Association. Such outbursts are especially damaging at a time when the Tories, meeting two years away from a provincial election, that they must present a more competent image. The switch by the Liberals on June 3—the last of Ontario's 163 federal seats—helped convince Harris that there is a moderate constituency he must reach out to. But with the government still committed to policies that will remake the province, cabinet shuffles may not be enough.

PETER KOPPELLEIN with MARY JANIGAR
and ECTOR D'ANGELO in Toronto



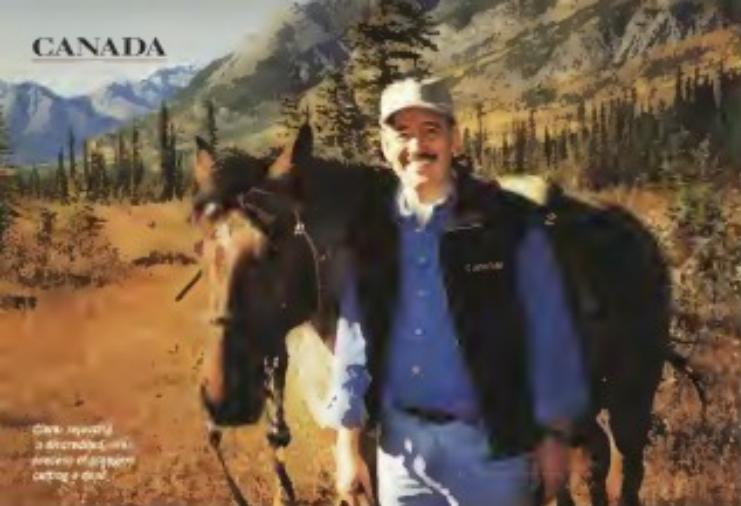
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A reporter
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Clark stands his ground

BY CHRIS WOOD

For an environmentalist that could have been contained in a two-page box, the event was indeed with so much symbolism in public relations stagecraft could denote. There was the dismal, orderly setting of the First Nations Hall of Learning on the University of British Columbia campus. There was certainly in the flowing syllables of the Coast Salish language, as a Musqueam elder invoked the Great Spirit and Mother Earth. There were bright young faces, based in from a Grade 9 class in Squamish, and soaring, large-screen video-walls of large animals in wet scree, set in a symphonic sound track. And at the centre of it all, a banting political "Today" B.C. Premier Gordon Clark told the audience needed to hear him announce the constitutional nature preserving law from Nova Scotia, "you are witness to a milestone in our history. This is a global measure."

Private sector critics accuse the New Democrat of "stoking war on business"—while the provincial economy stagnates. In the capitals of the neighbouring U.S. states of New Mexico and Washington, Clark is persona non grata, while relations between Victoria and Ottawa hit a new low last month when Clark demanded the national government as "treacherous" for failing to support his battle with the two-state-over-salmon. Among premiers seeking constitutional peace with Quebec, Clark has stood out for his reluctance to join the debate. Meanwhile, his domestic rivals on the right are putting aside differences that helped split the seat in the May 1995

said Monte Harnois, president of the World Wildlife Fund (Canada). More seriously, oil executives who endorsed protection of the uncontacted Makahwa chiai wilderness in the province's northwest they will get relaxed development rules outside the protected zone. But for Clark, even chancery-draped displays of agreement are becoming increasingly rare. More often lately, the 39-year-old premier's agenda has been dominated by confrontation.

Private sector critics accuse the New Democrat of "stoking war on business"—while the provincial economy stagnates. In the capitals of the neighbouring U.S. states of New Mexico and Washington, Clark is persona non grata, while relations between Victoria and Ottawa hit a new low last month when Clark demanded the national government as "treacherous" for failing to support his battle with the two-state-over-salmon. Among premiers seeking constitutional peace with Quebec, Clark has stood out for his reluctance to join the debate. Meanwhile, his domestic rivals on the right are putting aside differences that helped split the seat in the May 1995

election and keep the NDP in power. By most measures, Clark has little to smile about. That the scrappy former union organizer continues to enjoy a nearly superstitious degree of confidence says something about British Columbians' fondness for a good fight, as well as about his character.

Despite the good-news aura of the conservation announcement, until late last month senior advisers harbored doubts that Clark would sign on to the proposal. In the last weeks of September, officials from the B.C. government ministry picked the premier, along with a video camera and two lobbyists—one representing the oil industry, the other environmental causes—aboard a 350 helicopter for a tour of Under rock, cloudless summit slopes. Clark flew for nearly seven hours over high brown plateaus, slope slopes and lush river valleys uncared for development—in area wildlife experts say is the largest intact ecosystem of large predators and their prey outside of Africa. An estimated 22,000 moose, 18,000 elk and caribou, 3,000 bison's among the world's entire population of the



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highly renewable, and 5,000 moose antlers, 1,000 wolves and 500 grizzly bears, and some of the most spectacular wilderness on earth. Set down haphazardly atop a towering grey rock overlooking twin lakes, the city boy from working-class east Vancouver gazed out in unfeigned awe over the turquoise water 500 m below and rear, walled by wildness. "There's a very high possibility that no human being has stood here ever."

The package Clark ultimately approved provides special protection for a huge swath of the northern Rocky Mountains. More than one million hectares are set aside for complete protection from development—nearly the steady march of drilling rigs along the east and west gas resources of the eastern Rockies. Resource companies will be allowed to operate in another 3 million hectares, but under close environmental controls. At the same time, officials said, 2.4 ha would be set aside in the rest of the western British Columbia to allow for step-up development.

Welcome as it was by environmentalists and industry alike, the Mackenzie River compromise was a rare success for Clark's power-of style of politics. On other fronts, his government faces mounting problems and growing isolation. With economic growth weaker all provinces except Newfoundland and Nova Scotia last year, and house prices dropping in many Vancouver neighbourhoods, it is apparent that the B.C. economy has stalled. The two factors most often blamed: an slab in wealthy Asian immigration—and NDP policies that have hamstrung forestry, the province's biggest industry, with the world's highest operating costs. The former may be beyond Victoria's control, but forest policy consultant Les Reed blames the woes of the forestry sector mainly on the NDP's new Forest Practices Code, designed to reduce logging's environmental impact. "The government has, in effect, put a meg-aug-alarm predicted low levels," in terms of low labour demand, swelling unemployment rates and the weakness of its once-flourishing forest.

The fight Clark picked in the summer with British Columbia's American neighbour over salmon, meanwhile, has bogged down in the trench warfare of the courts. A decision by the B.C. government to sue Bonneville for failing to live up to the terms of the

U.S.-Salmon Treaty put Clark's picture in front pages as far south as California—but shows little sign of compelling concessions from the Americans. Meanwhile, the B.C. government was criticized from allies between Ottawa and Alaska that professed an agreement to restore ferry service between the U.S. state and Prince Rupert, cut off by the Americans after 200 Canadian fishing boats in the B.C. port blockade the American ferry Malaspina for three days in July. (Alaska is using the base anyway for compensation for that disruption.)

Clark's relations with his fellow first ministers in discussions over the future of the

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As Clark's enemies' list grows, his opponents are multiplying too. Just 24 hours before last week's provincial election, the region's representative in the legislature, Peace River North MLA Richard Nicolai, abandoned the BC Liberal party to form the official Opposition Liberal caucus. "A year and a half ago, we won the vote," Nicolai said, explaining his decision. "And we've been regretting it ever since. His move left the NDP's majority unchanged—the party lost 20 seats in the Liberal 34, after Nicolai's defection, while Reform and the Progressive Democratic Alliance have won each. Further consolidation of the established parties offers alternative governments in the New Democratic Party, which, according to Gordian Wilson, the former Liberal leader who heads the Alliance's sole elected member, has not yet decided by the end of the month whether to retire from politics—a decision that may trigger a by-election in his Powell River riding.

But if Clark, the son of a Scottish immigrant, is daunted by the number of snakes that now live in provincial offices political fronts, he does not show it. "There are always lumps in the job," he says. "But our things are going really well." Proud of his popularity, Clark moves easily among ordinary voters. During his recent visit to the Muskowekwa First Nation, sitting back on the porch of an elder's log cabin, he looked at home in rugged blue jeans and the sun-tan coveralls he wears to ride his much-loved 600-c.c. Honda Shadow motor cycle. "I don't believe in government that tries to meddle through and an often faceless body," Clark concludes. "Government is to take action; to do something and make



Charest and Clark: an agenda that has been dominated by confrontation

problems are not much better. In addition, he is contending for the Atlantic provinces. "They're chief states of the federal government," says Dr. Ernesto Sosich, Quebec Premier Ray Bourassa's drive to forge a constitutional offer to Quebec from the rest of the provinces by early January as "a described, off-the-shelf proposal of principles fitting together and cutting a deal," boasts Clark. "That process has no chance of success."

Clark is still smirking from the memory of having championed the Meech Lake and Charlottetown accords only to see public opinion in his province reject both deals. This time, he is determined to step ahead of his constituents. "I want to hear what they think I should do," Clark asserts. "This is why I get so annoyed by people, including Mr. Bourassa, who keep trying to say 'Constitutional change' for Quebec. In December last year, those three groups proposed consul-



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CANADA

changes. That has put me at odds with established opinion."

And in many B.C. kitchens, his combative readiness to take on David-aspects of Clark adds another reason to be wary. Many of the calls to D'Arcy Rinaldi's radio talk show on Vancouver Island's CKEG radio station are from employed forestry workers. Others stand to lose their jobs at the Nanaimo sawmill if Clark is able to radio good on his threat to close the facility as part of his plan to close off America's overfishing of salmon. And Americans are the last to let things happen, and Germans have a Victoria to court to oppose the move). Even so, a straw poll among Rinaldi's listeners on September suggested most preferred Clark's New Democrats to their rivals. More sensible, provincewide polling by Vancouver's MacKenzie Research, meanwhile, has shown Clark consistently ahead of the rest of his party in popularity, while voters opposed to the NDP continued to divide their support between Reform and the Liberals. "The bootstrap is working,"

Clark standing up to the Americans," notes Rinaldi. "It has an appeal."

In British Columbia, it also has tradition on its side. In a province whose geography often creates even within families, subdivisions with overseas roots have prospered. From the self-christened House of Commons, British Columbia's second premier, through the long tenure of Social Credit patriarch W. A. C. Bennett and including former NDP premier Dave Barrett, the most successful B.C. leaders have seldom shrank from a battle. But critics say Clark should learn to focus his fighting instinct. He's a striver, observes former Liberal M.L.A. Berry Clark (no relation), now host of a talk show in Kelowna. "But Barrett was more selective as what he chose to score about. He didn't score for the sake of scoring, which Gino does."

If Clark's bare-knuckled attitude is part of B.C. political tradition, his world's park secessionism was in step with another long tradition: trophy public works projects. In de Courcy's day it was railways—encouraged by lavish land grants to their backers. Later, Beaufort built hydro dams and highways. Now it is parks. Clark's Muskrat Falls is larger than the Athabasca river, or that his predecessor Mike Harcourt claimed. It might have been bigger still. Before Clark's cabinet approved the protected area, advocates gritfully considered selling their competitive premier the land reserve was big—but still small (or than one in Alaska, Clark, they reasoned, would not be able to reject seeking an a little more wilderness if it put British Columbia—and himself—in the spotlight.



Carney: raising off racks by suggesting the separation option for British Columbia

tical analysis in the province for the Angus Reid Group. "They want more of a role in Canada." According to Angus Reid research, fewer than 10 per cent of British Columbians believe that secession is even worth discussing in advance of a decision by Quebec—with barely one per cent of people surveyed in recent polls advocating it outright.

Still, some British Columbians are discovering that saying the S word aloud has its merits—if only because of the reaction it generates in Central Canada. "This is a tool more than anything else," suggested Seuss, "to get Ottawa's attention." The upscale English compatriots to the furiously obstinate by Quebec constitutional expert Leon Dore, father of federal Unconventional Affairs Minister Stéphane Dore, think the threat of separation puts "a knife to the throat" of the rest of the country in any negotiations over power. In that, at least, British Columbia may indeed be following in Quebec's path.

The other unity debate

Residents in the Rest of Canada—those dwelling east of the Rockies, that is—could easily be forgiven for believing that a tide of separation is rising in British Columbia. Conservative Senator Pat Conroy sat off the coast last week when she returned from travelling the province for several weeks in a motor home—the maze as an interview that British Columbians should negotiate a place in Confederation and consider secession as “an option” if it was not satisfied with the results. But Conroy was hardly alone. The same notion is developed at length in the current issue of *Vancouver magazine*, which herald Gen-II author Douglas Coupland to edit a special issue dedicated to the fictional creation of an independent Vancouver in 2001 “after years of Ottawa’s unquiet and city-busting policies.”

Months earlier, the province’s official constitutional adviser, Gordon Wilson, included secession among choices he said the government should consider in the wake of any future crisis over Quebec. Even Premier Glen Clark, who distanced himself from Carney’s comments, agreed last week that B.C. succession “will be part of the discussion if Quebec decides to leave Canada.” And radio talk shows and letters-to-the-ed columnists were flooded with expressions of support for Carney’s outspoken stand. “She hit a chord,” said Nazario radio host D’Arcy Rinaldi. “People are talking about it—the marriage breaks up, who gets the kids, who gets the house.”

In fact, residents have little to fear from the west—for the time being, at least. “The reality is that British Columbians don’t want to leave Canada,” observes Daniel Series, senior po-

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Settling accounts

BY BRUCE WALLACE

Public Relations 100: Case Study (Kwame students only). The client is a former Canadian prime minister who left office with the lowest poll ratings in history. The client believes it is remembered mostly for his blunders and buster, and still answers an almost constant stream of angry letters from the mass media and the members of his party. Now the political season has ended, they have sent a letter to the Swiss government in which the client is accused of having a secret bank account filled with the proceeds of a crime—taking millions of dollars from his wife while in office—and the letter has leaked to the press. The client requests help with his public image. Sober.

apologized to Mulroney last January, agreeing that there was no evidence whatsoever for its allegation. The Justice Minister Alan Rock tried to head off the blow to the RCMP, and the January settlement stated that the Mounties would cover Mulroney's bills. Last week, attorney Alan Gold ordered the RCMP to pay retribution from Mulroney's travelling

Good PR counted in the Mulroney payout



Lavigne: 'we were first, very, very fast to react'

82,006,508—\$587,772 to National alone.

To the layman, that sounds like a hefty fee for what Gold described as an "extensive newspaper clipping and media" operation around the world. But Gold, the former head of Quebec's Superior Court and a man with a sound reputation for business, was laudatory in upholding National's entire bill. His eight-page judgment noted that a key Mulroney legal document was a result "of an

Mulroney's \$2-million settlement, with a huge client estimated to be public relations

excessive expenses and services rendered by National." It is that network that made Lavigne's contribution unique. "The visible part of the job was being a spokesman," said the great Lavigne, a managing partner at National who charges about \$200 an hour. "But 80, maybe 90 per cent of our work was constant monitoring and intelligence gathering from my sources—all of it legal."

Of course Mulroney did not fire Lavigne through the Yellow Pages. The Rossotek, Que., native had been a colourful television journalist in Ottawa for 15 years before going to work for the Conservatives in 1986. He became a senior communications adviser to Mulroney a year later. Mulroney retained Lavigne with his own scratch-and-claw instinct, and Lavigne rose to become deputy chief of staff. His sometimes brash style always provoked its own strong reactions, even within Mulroney's orbit where friends still compete with one another to describe their closeness to the man. "Bruce [was] like an offshoot," says one longtime Mulroney friend carefully. The Mulroney connection has paid dividends for Lavigne, too: he was hired by Birbeck Gold Corp., which Mulroney is a director, during the previous, short-lived Indonesian gold rush. Lavigne may also be the only Mulroney associate to maintain a friendship with Louise Bourdier, who has become persona non grata with the old guard since her political divorce from Mulroney in 1990.

When the Airbus clouds began gathering, Mulroney had Lavigne's number on the speed dial. "Bruce was not going to appear in the media defending himself," said one Mulroney friend. "We knew he couldn't win that way" (indeed, Lavigne and National brought resources that might have prevented a legal battle. Founded in 1976, the company has over 250 employees across Canada, and claims to be the largest public relations firm in the country. Its international network, with Birbeck-Marcus far allowing it to monitor what was being reported in newspapers around the globe—critical in Mulroney's argument that the damage to his name was worldwide. "We were fast, very, very fast in react to the government's moves," said Lavigne last week in an interview with Maclean's. "We always knew what was coming in the newspapers the next day and the lawyers considered this to be their weak." He cited a May 1990 interview with RCMP commissioner Philip Murray where the Mounties vowed to use any tactics to delay the case. "That had legal implications," said Lavigne.

National designated an employee to constantly monitor the Internet, watching for the first electronic editions of the newspapers to

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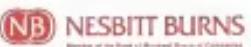
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CANADA -

name and in the early morning hours. The Ottawa Citizen said it came in at 12:36 a.m. in those days, for example, so we'd wake up and have several hours for the lawyers to argue a response to anything that was coming in," said Lavigne. What journalists would do is call him to get Macrae's reaction to any scoop they were about to publish, Lavigne could "pick up the phone and tell the reporter." In fact, Macrae's team always had good insight into what the government was up to. One of his lawyers was Roger St. Jean, a former deputy minister at the Justice department who was able to analyze and predict his former department's moves. And Lavigne said he has often networked in case our information "All the expressions of my life came together on this case," he said last week. "I was an Ottawa guy for 22 years, I understood the way thinking. People would tell me all over, outraged about what was happening to Macrae, saying, 'I think you should know that and that.'"

Lavigne will not confirm or deny responsibility for two key stories that he believes helped nudge public opinion towards Mulroney. One was the publication in *The Financial Post* of the missing funds in the Telus bank account in question, showing a few hundred dollars where Ottawa's see-

rio Forrest, editor. The other scoop goes to the *Sun* paper, explaining that the justices accepted a suit, "Devon" did not go to Malvern. He does, however, an-
nounce deep the widespread theory that the
decency side had leaked the justice de-
cember's infamous letter in order to
reach the former prime minister's \$500,000
a bid set, settled out of court last January.
"He's sick," says Lowe. "His only chance

"Our work was constant intelligence gathering from any sources,"

Maloney was that it never became public." Friends say Maloney remains convinced his affair was orchestrated by Prince Maxi- milian, Count Cherben and senior aide Eddie Wiedenbeck for political ends. "There's an analysis that says Cherben's popularity was not on the simple fact that he was not Maloney," said one Maloney associate. "Now we can see how long it took after two years of using promises and adopting the old CP policies, they needed a way to remind

Our work was constant intelligence gathering from any sources'



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In search of a home

The autumn sky is a hazy blue and the day unusually warm, but the handful of men and women gathered outside a Toronto shelter hardly seem to notice. Roma refugee claimants from the Czech Republic are tired, fed up and distrustful of those trying to speak with them through an interpreter. The many media accounts they say have glorified their cause, the stereotypes about the Roma community find the new Greek polygamy—or suggested that their claims of racial persecution in the Czech Republic are unfounded.

As their children play in the parking lot, they spend at least 12 hours a day slowly processing their claims, the separation of families, dealing with doctors who are not translators. "Just to be eligible to apply for refugee status is taking up to six months, instead of the usual six to eight weeks," explains translator Paul St. Clair, a Toronto resident of Slovak origin who left Czechoslovakia in 1989. "The whole process is wasting their time."

Canadian officials, it seems, are almost as weary of a trial that no one appears to flee. Until recently, the few of Roma refugee claimants was a mere trickle, beginning in April, 1996, when Canada had no requirements for Czech citizens. Then,

last August, a TV program aired in the Czech Republic portrayed Canada as an ideal destination for refugees, with strong immigration procedures and easy access to social assistance. The number of Czech refugee claimant refugee status quickly jumped—an estimated 1,800 people between late August and early October, compared with less than 500 in all of 1995. With Toronto's overburdened legal system bursting at the seams, Canada last week re-imposed the visa requirement for Czech citizens. Tat, some observers predicted the move as unfair—and a slap in the face for people of Roma heritage.

According to Ronald Lau, a Canadian of Roma heritage, the flood of refugees was a crisis waiting to happen. "All that was needed was a window of opportunity, like the eased travel restrictions, and a trigger like the TV documentary. The Roma remain a target of cultural oppression in the Czech Republic," Lau says, barriers to education and employment are entrenched and even access to public places such as restaurants or swimming pools can be difficult. Lau, the Canadian delegate to the International Roma Union, which advises the United Nations on Roma issues, thinks

Roma refugee claimants feel persecuted

is not exactly popular but it's true, it's always [based] racism," says association president Blanca Rihova.

Such pronouncements have enraged established Roma members of Canada's Roma community, fearing them to be their first lobby group, the Roma Advocacy Centre. And according to Lau, future Roma refugees "will continue to come because conditions in the former Soviet bloc countries are not likely to change radically. The Roma are bona fide political refugees."

Roma families struggling to escape the limbo of emergency shelters can only hope that Canadian officials agree.

PATRICIA CHISHOLM

At play in a knowles shelter: finding the Czech Republic for a better way of life

also emphasizes that the stereotypes about the Roma are untrue. "We are not talking about gypsies with carts and dancing bears," he says. "Many of the people I observe have trades and education. I have not been a bouncer, track driver, a television-musician engineer, a masseuse."

So far, immigrants lawyers report that almost none of the Roma claims heard by the Immigration and Refugee Board have been refused. In most cases, says Czech-speaking Toronto immigration lawyer George Kubas, the board has found that Roma refugees have good reasons to believe the Czech government is unwilling or unable to protect them from life-threatening situations. According to Kubas, it was clear Ottawa had to do something to deal with the food, but his contention that re-opening the issue was a mistake. "It's shortsighted," he says. "We took these people at the rate of almost 100 per month but now others can't come."

The Czech government of President Vaclav Havel, meanwhile, has been embarrassed by the flight of the Roma at a time when it is trying to establish itself as a modern democracy with a place in NATO and the European Union. As a result of the exodus to Canada, Havel and Prime Minister Vaclav Klaus have demanded more education and employment opportunities for the Roma. But some members of Canada's Czech community insist Roma refugee claims are not legitimate. In a letter sent to the Foreign Affairs and the Refugees Board, the Czech and Slovaks Association of Canada said the movement in the Czech Republic is "not ethnically different from Canada"; while refugees from other parts of the world are in "real danger." One government board member—Peter Monk, CEO of Barrick Gold Corp.—condoned because he felt the letter violated the principles of tolerance and co-operation. But association officials stand by its contents. "If you are white, and you say something that

is not exactly popular but it's true, it's always [based] racism," says association president Blanca Rihova.

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Roma families struggling to escape the limbo of emergency shelters can only hope that Canadian officials agree.

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RULING FAVORS DISABLED

The Supreme Court of Canada unanimously ruled with three disabled people who sued the British Columbia government for the right to sign-language interpreters in medical facilities. It is expected that hospitals across Canada will now have to offer such a service. A wide range of other groups claiming discrimination are also expected to benefit as a result.

TWO YEARS FOR RAPE

Amid public outrage, Quebec Justice Minister Serge Ménard said Crown prosecutors will appeal the two-year sentence given Mario Gélinas, 29, Giles Bois, 23, and Stéphane Bergeron, 24, for the 1996 gang rape of a 17-year-old girl held captive for 16 hours. Quebec Court Judge Louis Carrier said there were "no signs of perverse violence" and noted the men had already spent 11 months in jail.

BILLIONS WASTED

Auditor General Denis Desautels said the federal government wastes billions of dollars because many programs lack specific goals. As well, his annual report dismissed the \$1-billion Atlantic Groundfish Strategy, known as TAGS, which was intended to help East Coast fishermen make the transition to other types of work, but which Desautels and has failed to get them involved in other businesses. Health Canada, meanwhile, contributed to aboriginal drug abuse through a \$53-million health benefits program riddled with fraud, he said.

CUTTING OFF DEBATE

Reformers and New Democrats walked out of the House of Commons in protest when the Liberals moved to limit debate as riding Canada Pension Plus premiums while cutting benefits. Ottawa wants to pass amendments in time to take effect in January. The government says the changes are necessary to keep the plan from running out of money.

BOUCHARD WARNED

Liberals were re-elected in three Quebec by-elections while the Parti Québécois retained its seat in a fourth. In all cases, however, Liberals improved on their previous electoral showings. Disasters and the general reflected growing dissatisfaction with PQ rule as spending



Mossad as the defense in the House of Commons: right

Liberals under fire

Premier Jean Charest and his backbenchers struggled to defend themselves against accusations of influence peddling last week. The case involves Pierre Corbeil, a Liberal fund-raiser during last spring's federal election campaign, whose justification included Charest's own riding. The RCMP alleges that a man identifying himself as Corbeil pressured four Quebec

MPs to stand up and say, "We sold the RCMP to off him after the election, because this is going to be an embarrassment." Despite such attacks, the Liberal response remained sanguine. "We should not be dragging people's names through the mud who we don't know to be guilty," Mayor said. As for Charest, he said, "Wait for the police to do their job."

Top court angers Quebec

The Supreme Court of Canada unanimously struck down a section of Quebec's 1978 referendum law that capped campaign spending by individuals and independent groups. The court acknowledged that spending caps are "highly undesirable" because they restrict citizens' much-needed political participation in making decisions by wealthy individuals or organizations. But the justices found that Quebec's law went too far, amounting to a virtual ban on freedom of expression that contravened Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and Quebec's own charter. But while Quebec Premier Lucien Bouchard said his government will study the court's findings before deciding what to do, Guy Cormier, the minister responsible for the referendum law, said the province could invoke the Constitution's so-called spending clause to override the Supreme Court decision, as Quebec did with its language law. "To see the democracy of a people, you do not hesitate to take the most appropriate measures," Cormier said. The case was launched by Alain Bellemare, former leader of Quebec's Equality party, during the 1993 vote on the Charlottetown accord. James Greg, Bellemare's lawyer, said last week's ruling means changes will now have to be dropped against those who paid for the referendum rally in Montreal prior to the narrow No victory in the 1995 referendum.

Landing the Prize

Peace activists share in the 1997 Nobel

BY D'ARCY JENISH

Only Williams celebrated her 45th birthday last Thursday at her remote retreat in Vermont's Green Mountains, "a beautiful, rustic house with lots of glass," as she describes it. There is a beaver pond just back and wild turkeys in the surrounding woods. A day later, she celebrated a much larger event in her life: the award of the Nobel Peace Prize jointly to her and the Washington-based International Campaign to Ban Landmines. Williams was the leading coordinator of the year-long campaign, which mobilized thousands of individuals around the world and culminated in a treaty negotiated last month in Oslo. "Yippee!" said a jubilant Williams. "The Nobel Prize is formal recognition that the campaign changed the world in a breathtakingly short period of time."

The campaign will be remembered by representatives from more than 100 countries in Oslo at its early Conference, a reflection of the rapid rise in popularity of the Canadian government, and particularly Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, who was also nominated for the Nobel Prize. But even his supporters admit that the treaty is, at best, only the beginning of the end of land mines. The campaign had already won about 10,000 civilians and governments—10,000 annually, often years or decades after a war is over. The treaty must still be ratified and implemented by governments around the world. And several of the biggest users of land mines, such as the United States and China, have refused to sign the pact (after the press award, Bush's President Bill Clinton and his country would change their stance and sign). Then there is the issue of mine clearance, a slow, costly and dangerous undertaking that can take decades because there are an estimated 200 million buried worldwide. "The treaty is wonderful," Williams told Maclean's, "but it's just a piece of paper until it's enforced."

Beside the challenges ahead, many sermons are announced at how fast political thinking has been changed. As recently as May 1995, UN sponsored negotiations in Geneva failed to produce tighter regulations on the use of the devices. The Canadian government responded by organizing a conference in Ottawa in October, 1995, to discuss a ban. To the surprise of almost everyone involved, about 50 nations sent delegates and another 20 had observers in attendance. Still, these talks were proceeding with some difficulty as a bold move by Williams challenged the participants to return to Ottawa in December, 1995, to sign a treaty.

A few months after the Ottawa conference, the late Diana, Princess of Wales, threw her support behind the issue, and helped immensely by travelling to Angola and Bosnia to meet civilians injured by land mines. By the time delegates and activists reached Oslo, the campaign was on a roll. "It's been exhilarating," said Celina Tiffet, coordinator of Ottawa-based Mines Action Canada, a dynamic coalition of church, humanitarian and disarmament groups that worked for a ban. "I get covered with goose bumps just talking about the campaign."

Some Canadian foreign affairs officials are equally surprised by the sea change in thinking about land mines. "I've been here for a little over two years," said one senior bureaucrat who spoke on condition that he not be named. "When I arrived, my predecessor gave me the landmines file saying 'Here's a real loser. Don't waste your time on it.' Our policy, as set by the department of national defence, was that land mines were an indispensable part of the country's security, and virtually every government in the world took the same position."

Canadian thinking began to change, the official said, largely because of the lobbying by Mines Action Canada. "They kept poking at our arguments," he said, "and the more they did, the more we had to go back and re-examine our principles. We questioned DND, and they started questioning themselves." Activists in many other countries were providing their own arguments to act, with varying degrees of success. Axworthy's initiative, which came to be known as the Ottawa Process, had a galvanizing effect on many leaders who were being resonance from their military chiefs. "We made a lot of enemies because we got governments in difficult positions," said the official. "They don't like to be forced to choose between their defence establishments and their foreign ministries. But the defence forces governments to decide yes or no."

The Canadian activists coalition and the Ottawa Process were small but significant parts of the huge Nobel Peace-winning international campaign. It was launched in November 1991, when representatives of the Washington-based Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation and the German humanitarian organization Medics International asked Williams, a longtime social activist, to co-ordinate an international campaign against the weapons. Williams, a Vermont native who holds two master's degrees—including one in international relations from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore—was initially reluctant after spending 11 fruitless years attempting to change U.S. policy in Central America during the Reagan-Bush years. But she hit a responsive chord with land mines. "The support for a ban didn't come out of nowhere," she said. "Hundreds of organizations were involved in the issue in the field. There was a natural constituency to pull together."

The constituency consisted of non-governmental organizations, or NGOs—groups devoted to pressing such things as human rights, disarmament and Third World development. Their

workers kept encountering adults and children in dozens of African, Asian and Central American countries whose arms and legs had been blown off by exploding land mines. Williams organized the first international conference on the issue at New York City in October, 1992, and attracted representatives of 40 NGOs. A similar event in London the following May attracted 50 organizations from more than 40 organizations. Since then, the campaign has grown to more than 7,000 organizations in 60 countries.

The campaign's first significant political victory occurred in late 1993 when French activists pressured their government into enacting a revision of a 1989 UN treaty that explicitly regulated the use of land mines. The Geneva-based review, the same one that would disappoint the Canadians, lasted 2½ years and drew delegations from 54 countries before ending inconclusively in May, 1996. "It was a useless treaty," said Williams, "with loopholes as big you could drive a tank through them."

Sensing that there was no political will to strengthen the existing restrictions, Williams and other members of the campaign decided to do an end run around the UN talks. They organized a series of luncheons in Geneva, starting in January 1995, and invited delegations from governments that had declared support for a ban. The first luncheon attracted representatives of nine countries, including Canada. A second in April drew 23, and at the final session there were delegations from 17 nations. "We said 'Let's do lunch meetings so we won't interrupt the review sessions,'" recalls Williams. "It wasn't a problem; most delegations had a lunch break built into their hours."

At the final luncheon meeting, Williams said, the Canadian delegation introduced a resolution plan for the Ottawa conference. That initiative led ultimately to the treaty negotiations that opened on Sept. 1 in Oslo with delegations from more than 100 countries. Less than two weeks earlier, they reached an agreement to prohibit the use, production, development, sale or stockpiling of land mines. Williams said that the campaign's next challenge will be to convince the United States to sign under pressure from the Pentagon. President Bill Clinton refused to endorse the treaty after American negotiators failed to win an exemption for South Korea, where 27,000 American troops are stationed. Washington also wanted a one-year implementation period. The treaty, however, will have no effect for signatures it needs: after 40 countries have ratified it, a process expected to take two years. A White House spokesman said Clinton doesn't "rock the boat" by opposing the treaty.

Despite the treaty's limitations, activists are universally proud of it. For them, it represents a victory for ordinary people over the military plotters and strategists who had long held the attention of their political masters. "The treaty, this whole process, is because concerned individuals around the world, whether they live in some remote part of Russia or Afghanistan, or downtown Ottawa or Vancouver, cared enough to get involved," says Tiffet, the Mines Action Canada co-ordinator. And for Williams, it will all clean up to have shared in the Nobel Peace Prize. □



Williams, Diana in Angola (right); a soldier seen change in attitudes



For laughter and giving

Opening the world's eyes

Ian Holm plays Peter Pan to not a bit of a cheer while the Nobel Prize for Literature was being announced in Stockholm. In fact, he was driving from Rome to Milan. But the 71-year-old author of 70 plays—including *Comic Mystery*, *Accidental Death of an Anarchist* and *Don't Pay Your Peas*—was as well known in Italy that another motorist informed him he had taken the \$1.4-million prize by holding up a sign that read: "Dame has won the Nobel!" To him and his wife, "we're amazed" to receive the award, perhaps because critics rarely mentioned him as a potential winner. But the Swedish Academy may have clearly impressed. "With a blend of humor and gravity," it declared, "he opens our eyes to shadow and shadow in society."

There was another surprise choice for the Nobel Prize in medicine. A committee of Swedish scientists settled on Dr Stanley Prusiner, a 56-year-old biochemist and neurologist of the University of California at San Francisco. Prusiner won for pioneering work on prion diseases as "a new class of disease-causing agents," the committee said. Prusiner has been linked to so-called mad cow disease and other degenerative brain disorders. Many of his fellow researchers still do not accept his work. But Prusiner said he welcomes both scrutiny and skepticism. "It's very important," he said, "that people who propose new ideas be given a tough time."

DJ





WORLD MIDDLE EAST

Are Canadians in jeopardy?

John Sloane arrived at Egypt's Taba border crossing with Israel last week and presented his passport. Sloane, a Canadian citizen who teaches scuba diving in the Egyptian resort town of Sharm al-Shiekh, wasities the crossing often. Normally, the guards take a quick glance at his Canadian passport, give a friendly smile, and Sloane moves on. Not this time. "I gave them my passport, they looked at it, they looked at me, and they asked, 'Are you an Israeli spy?'" Sloane recounted. Twice—completely stunned—Sloane was also confused. He had not seen a newspaper—or was aware of the spy story turned diplomatic fiasco for all that had been rolling the Middle East for days.

Sloane knows now, along with the rest of the world, that on Sept. 25 agents of the Israeli secret service with forged Canadian passports tried to assassinate Ruhed Meislin, a leader of the militant Palestinian Islamic movement. Hamas blamed for its

hurricanes in Israel. They botched the job, and were caught and exposed. Sloane was as well. An angry Canada recalled an ambassador to Israel. An ailing King Hussein of Jordan forced Israel to hand over \$1 Arab

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A former envoy questions a CSIS connection in Israel

prisoners exchange for the Mossad agents. The prisoners included Sheik Ahmed Yassin, the spiritual leader of Hamas, who made a triumphant return to Gaza last week. And in Israel, the political fallout became so heavy that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu made a surprise return to power talks with the Palestinians in an unsuccessful effort to divert attention from the failed maneuver.

Back in Taba, Jason Sloane entered an hour of questioning from the Egyptians and



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As Yeltsin revives, so does his nation

Chrétien will see changes on his visit this week

BY MALCOLM GRAY

There are deer pastures. The buildings have been repainted. And everywhere there are gleaming billboards—and many more cars. These are likely to be some of Jean Chrétien's snapshots impressions as he photographs aperçus from the airport into Moscow that weekend. Since the Prime Minister last visited Russia in 1985, there have been a few changes. For one thing, the capital looks cleaner than it has for years, thanks to a civic health overdrive by Yuri Luzhkov, its energetic and energetic mayor. Less visibly, Russia's industrial and rural powerbase may now suffice her roadless traffic jams; the number of vehicles has tripled to 2.7 million during the past six years. But more orderly is colonizing the chaotic business scene. Some changes are definitely better, says Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister André Boisjoly, who has lived in Moscow for most of the post-communist era. "People are not that corrupt system is what I had. We noticed that the courts are starting to hear business disputes. We had 17 cases against the government in the past three years and not every one."

That will be welcome news for Chrétien. Along with discussing such issues as land reform and a cross-national air-traffic law

with Russian President Boris Yeltsin, he hopes to boost business back home. Chrétien is not the only one. In recent weeks, Moscow has flirted with these gridlock as the leaders of Egypt, Italy, France and India, as well as U.S. Vice-President Al Gore, all dropped in. Japan's prime minister is up next after Chrétien. And Microsoft founder Bill Gates is surely the richest of the many business visitors arriving to sniff out investment opportunities. Canadian goldmining entrepreneur Peter Munk is one of them. He was running the forests of southern Siberia this summer, checking out goldfields near Lake Baikal—an unusual old-horse-hunting post of Yeltsin's former prime minister Brian Mulroney, who sits on Munk's board.

Those who meet the president find a man who has regained his strength and renewed his vision of the country after



Christian sect at worship in Moscow
A restriction on the

these schismatics complain that the law gives the Orthodox Church a virtual monopoly religion. Says William Mendenhall, 49, a Catholic priest from Vancouver who is teaching at a St. Petersburg seminary: "It places restrictions on freedom of worship, hampers dialogue between religions and effectively denies that Roman Catholics have been in Russia for over 400 years."

Support for the law came from a curious alliance between Orthodox Church Patriarch Alexei II and the Communists-dominated parliament. Alexei, spiritual head of a church claiming 60 million members, lobbied vigorously for protection against the numerous

unbegotten heart surgery last fall. Yeltsin's robust recent contacts with economic advisers show that Russia's battered economy is about to start growing after six years of contraction and depression. Under tight money policies that have made the hyper-inflation of the early 1990s a receding memory, consumer prices rose by only 15 per cent this year. And Yeltsin has made it clear he still seeks his share of foreign returns

ers, who are bent on eliminating unaffiliated state subsidies left over from the communist era. The good news for Canada is that bilateral trade jumped by 45 per cent last year. The bad news is that there wasn't much in the fine print. The United States, Britain and Germany are Russia's key export trading partners, while Canada with \$6 billion in total commerce, is stuck in 35th place—well

to force any bureaucrat to do anything," says Lawrence Uziel, a spokesman for the Kesive Institute, a British organization that promotes religious freedom in Eastern Europe.

Authorities have verbally assured Roman Catholics, Mormons and other Protestants that the new restrictions are not aimed at them. Victor Zorkinov, the Communist deputy who originally sponsored the bill, said that its primary aim was to prevent Russians from falling under the influence of such cults as Aum Shinri Kyo (Supreme Truth), the secretive Japanese sect that released poison gas in the Tokyo subway system in 1995. In the meantime, the so-called foreign sects are hoping the country's Constitutional Court will quash the law and allow them to continue proselytizing unimpeded. The Mormons take pride in having more than 7,000 converts during the past seven years—although the figure pale beside the number of Orthodox believers. During a break from his seminary classes, Father Mendenhall had some advice for Russia's biggest church. "After 70 years of communism, there are many people in Russia who are receptive to a religious message," he said. "They should be concentrating on reaching them instead of fighting other churches."

M.G. in Moscow

The president, with Novgorod's Gelt, speaks to Nikolay Nekrasov—so here appears

behind even the tiny island of Cyprus, a favorite haven for newly rich Russians.

With less than three years to go in his second and probably final term as president, Yeltsin, 66, is intent on consolidating his role as the man who swept away communism and made Russia safe for capitalism. He has a designate—a successor of sorts in First Vice-President Boris Nemtsov, the 37-year-old former governor of the central Russian region of Novgorod Oblast—formerly off-limits to foreigners because it is thick with Soviet defense plants. But after the collapse of communism the region, some 500 km east of Moscow, became known as Russia's laboratory of reform due to Nemtsov's eagerness to embrace free-market measures.

Business is bust and open in style. Nemtsov has become the most popular politician in the country, as well as a political jack-of-all-Russian trades. He describes himself as a焦躁者 for agreeing to take on the job of saving the massive state housing and utility subsidies, which cost more than the defense budget. Yeltsin has given heavy hints that Nemtsov is his choice for heir apparent—provided that he manages to drop the subsidies without triggering massive discontent. Millions of Russians will find life easier under their heating and heating bills rise significantly. But Nemtsov can only do his own speculations, knowing that Yeltsin needs to do his best for proteges who fail.

Chrétien will also check on Nemtsov at close quarters during his Friday Russia visit, which also includes a stop to St. Petersburg. Nemtsov was scheduled to attend an Oct. 30 lunch hosted by Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, the long-suffering oil tycoon who is essentially in charge of the government. Also invited is the other first vice-president, Anatoli

Battling over Russian souls

The onion-shaped domes of the Cathedral of Christ the Savior, glistening with 20 kg of gold donated by a Russian bank, tower over the Kremlin in central Moscow. The \$940-million structure, built in only 15 months, is a near-copy of the czarist church that Soviet dictator Josef Stalin demolished in 1931. Its triumphant reappearance is a symbol of the Russian Orthodox Church's drive to regain its place at the centre of society—but that drive has also emboldened the church in international commerce. Late last month, Russian President Boris Yeltsin signed a bill that imposed restrictions on so-called nonorthodox religions—a definition that lump together Roman Catholics, Mormons and other Protestant sects, and cults like the Hare Krishnas. Many of

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WORLD

Chubais, who is easily the most popular politician in Russia. Chubais gained that distinction by presiding over a rushed, chaotic and corrupt privatization that saw state enterprises sold off at bargain prices to a small group of well-connected insiders. Together, the two men form a good-cop/bad-cop team that is the real engine of power and the driving force for reform in Yeltsin's government.

Christov will also have a brief meeting with Moscow mayor Likhachev, another Yukos ally who would like to be president. At 41, Likhachev is a teetotaler with energy to spare. Setting up the 800th anniversary of Moscow's foundation as the somewhat unlikely occasion for a major civic bash, he has spent long hours micro-managing countless projects from the refurbishing of the massive Christ the Savior Cathedral in the city center to the rehabilitation of nearby



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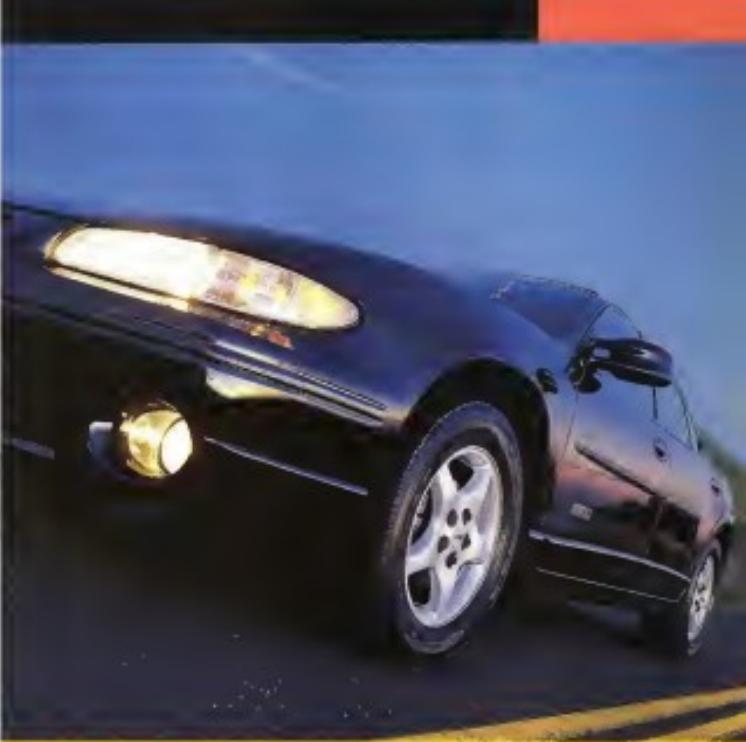
As usual, the president is keeping his options open. A month ago, Yeltsin spoke reasonably enough about how he would hand over power in the year 2000, shying off the question of his own replacement. This, I clearly conjecture, would be seen as a lame duck leader. He preserved courage and said it was too early to speak of a third presidential term. "My colleagues and friends have forbidden me to talk about this," he told reporters while visiting New York's *Newsday*—as an attentive Newt Gingrich hangs on his words. Soviet loyalists have added to the uncertainty by floating several ridiculous lego propositions. One is that the two-term limit law took effect in 1995, when Yeltsin was halfway through a mandate. He was under the laws of the Soviet Union. Yeltsin is serving his first term now.

A year in
absence
from rule

for the new constitution," argues Alexander Shokhin, leader of the president's opposition in parliament. "Until the Constitutional Court rules otherwise his participation in the next election cannot be ruled out." Even were he forced to leave, a scheme to upgrade the loose union between Russia and neighboring Belarus and have Yeltsin run for the leadership of the resulting entity last week, Yeltsin changed course again, telling reporters on a visit to France that he had no intention of running for a third term.

The bottom line is that Yeltsin has made yet another comeback as the dominant political figure in the country. But that may not be the only element that has returned. In a scheduled informal visit to Yeltsin's dacha, or cottage, on the outskirts of Moscow, Chechen will be able to gauge for himself a favorite zone of speculation on

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WORLD

the city's overactive gossip circuits, how much vodka Yelton is putting away these days. The answer appears to be that his quintuple-bypass operation a year ago put only a temporary crimp in his hard-drinking style. So far, the post-op, thin-faced-down Yelton has managed to avoid the alcohol-fuelled misadventures he was prone to in the past, especially on foreign trips. But Anatoliy Nokayev, a well-known folk singer who performed at a dinner Yelton hosted for French President Jacques Chirac last month, told Maclean's she could not help noticing Yelton's drinking habits. "Chirac was sipping a glass of wine, but Yelton was constantly downing shots of vodka," she said. "Every five minutes, or so it seemed, he kept getting up and going to the bathroom."

In his formal sessions, Chirac will press the case of Canadian firms trying to navigate a still-walky business environment. Northern Telecom, a subsidiary of Bell Canada, has just won a \$90-million contract to install data and communications systems for a local rail road and is trying to land a \$75-million deal with another major company. That is a Canadian success story in a field known for corruption and favoritism. This summer, the privatization of part of a state-owned telecommunications company touched off bitter accusations of a rigged auction by the losing side. Prosecutors are investigating whether Alfred Kaldis, formerly minister in charge of privatization, took a \$119,000 bribe in return for supplying Ericsson, the successful bidder, with vital inside information.

Now, at least, there is a new generation head, Michael Banks, a close ally of Clinton. Roland Stroh, chief economist at Renaissance Capital investment bank, describes the appointment as "part of a transition towards a clearer, more transparent" government. According to Canadian lawyer Catherine, such moves are part of Russia's new and uneven attempts to provide better protection for investors. Regulatory bodies, he notes, are bringing in measures to aid shareholders, including those with minority stakes. "It's a business environment that's changing for the better," he says. "These will be well-rewarded."

Corruption is still a persistent problem. So are the gangsters involved in many key businesses. And Russians who live for the bright lights of Moscow are still waiting to share the benefits of a market economy. But Yeltsin's rekindled support for economic reform signals his intention to complete the difficult transition from communism to capitalism. As Chirac and other Western leaders arrive to check out his progress, they may conclude that Russia is finally on the brink of becoming what Yelton has long claimed it is: a "normal country." □

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The Trans Canada Trail is a shared-use Trail accommodating five core activities: walking, cycling, horseback riding, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling. Where possible, nested in order to ensure that the Trail is planned and built according to local needs, a Trans Canada Trail Council has been established in each province and territory. These Councils are now working with community groups to plan and coordinate the route, construction, and maintenance of the Trail.

THE DOWN-TO-EARTH REALITY: The general route of the Trans Canada Trail has been superimposed over the above satellite composite image. Notice how the Trail will wind its way through every province and territory, linking major metropolitan, small cities and the users of the communities along its path. The land on which the Trail will be built will come from existing trails whereas previously abandoned railway lines, federal and provincial parks along existing railway lines and on private holdings granting rights of way. An undertaking of this scope requires ardent support - not only trail users within the Trail movement - but from many levels of society: individual Canadians, communities, schools, service clubs, corporations, governments and countless organizations.

METRE BY METRE, IT'S GROWING ACROSS THE LAND! Canadians everywhere are responding. From within the Trail Movement alone, organizations representing over 1,500,000 volunteers have come together to help build the Trail. Across the country more than 1,200 kilometres of Trail are planned for this year, bringing the total to over 2,000 kilometers. Kettle Valley Railway in British Columbia, the Bow Valley Corridor in Alberta, Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park in Saskatchewan, a stretch of abandoned CN rail line between Neepawa and Russell in Manitoba, the Forgotten Trails near Magnetawan in Ontario, Le P'tit train du nord in Quebec, the train bridge in Fredericton, New Brunswick, the Petawawa County trail in Nova Scotia, sections of the Newfoundland Trailway near Gander, the Confederation Trail in PEI and sections of the Trail in Whistlers, Yukon.

SHARE THE VISION! Maclean's magazine invites you to join with your fellow Canadians in this great outdoor enterprise. Read on through the next few pages and find out how you, your group or your company can become a part of it.

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Funds raised to build the Trans Canada Trail are now being put to work throughout Canada!

To date, individual Canadians, companies and organizations have generously donated more than \$2.7 million toward the building of the Trans Canada Trail. Well over 70,000 Canadians have either contributed directly or received Trail metres as gifts from friends and loved ones. These funds are now being channelled back into participating communities throughout Canada to help build the Trans Canada Trail. Here are some of the most recent Trail projects that are making your dollars count.



\$62,000 FOR TRAIL THROUGH THE BOW VALLEY CORRIDOR

In Alberta, the Foundation has invested \$62,000 toward the construction of a 12-km section of the trail through the spectacular Bow Valley corridor. When completed, this trail will be a vital link to the west, the Town of Canmore and on to Banff National Park and Kananaskis Country to the east, with Kainaiwa Country and then on to Calgary.



\$50,000 TO HELP BUILD THE HAMILTON TO BRANTFORD RAIL TRAIL

In Ontario, the Foundation contributed \$50,000 to the Brantford to Hamilton "Rail Trail". Linking two cities, this 24-km section is Ontario's first completely off-road, fully developed interurban trail. At one end, the trail links with Brantford's Gordon Clavens Memorial Trailway system; at the other end with the Hamilton Bikeways. This is the latest extension to the three "Rail-Trails" infrastructure in the Grand River Valley. Operated by the Grand River Conservation Authority, these "Rail-Trails" are now an integral part of the Trans Canada Trail in southwestern Ontario.



\$1,000 TO HELP BUILD THE TRANS CANADA TRAIL IN DOUGLAS PROVINCIAL PARK

In Saskatchewan, the Foundation contributed \$1,000 to help build 12 km of Trans Canada Trail in Douglas Provincial Park. Officially opened on June 20, this is the first portion of the Trans Canada Trail in the province. The Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association, a community based non-profit organization, is coordinating Saskatchewan's portion of the Trans Canada Trail.

\$45,000 TO HELP BUILD ATLANTIC CANADA'S FIRST TRANS CANADA TRAIL PAVILION

In New Brunswick, the Foundation contributed \$45,000 to build a Trail Pavilion in the City of Fredericton. On August 4, New Brunswick Day, dual ceremonies included the official opening of the Pavilion and the unwrapping of the historic Fredericton Railway bridge in its new form as a trail bridge on the Irving Trail. The Pavilion is located at the south end of the new trail-bridge. The Irving Trail, which spans 377 km, is a vital link in New Brunswick's Trans Canada Trail network.



\$181,000 TO ACQUIRE THE ROSSBURN SUBDIVISION IN MANITOBA

In Manitoba, the Foundation contributed \$181,000 to the Manitoba Recreational Trail Association to purchase the Rossburn Subdivision from CN. This rail corridor stretches for 100 kilometers between Neepawa and Russell, linking 9 municipalities as well as 2 First Nation Reserves. The corridor, which represents approximately 20% of the route of the Trans Canada Trail through Manitoba, will eventually be handed over to the Rossburn Subdivision Trail Association.

Winding past scenic lakes and pretty valleys, the trail passes through rich farmland of wheat and canola. Wildlife includes deer, elk, prairie chickens, fox, hawks and even badgers. Many of the original settlers came from Ukraine and the distinctive " Onion" shaped domes of their churches add a pleasant accent along the rail-trail.

\$45,000 TO HELP BUILD WESTERN CANADA'S FIRST TRAIL PAVILION

In Alberta, the Foundation contributed \$45,000 to build a Trail Pavilion on the Bow Valley Parkway in the city of Calgary. The Pavilion was officially opened on April 22nd at a ceremony that included Former Ralph Klein, Sherman Oliver, President of the Trans Canada Trail Foundation and William (Bill) Pratt (O.C.), one of the founding fathers of the Trans Canada Trail.



Share The Vision!

Help build The Trans Canada Trail



Pavilion designed by W.G. Milne of Calgary, Alberta

TRANS CANADA TRAIL PAVILION OPENS IN CALGARY

The Trail west saw the opening of its second Trans-Canada Trail Pavilion in Calgary, Alberta. The Pavilion, located on the Bow River pathway, officially opened on April 22 of 1997. It proudly displays the names and messages of over 50,000 donors and can accommodate up to 12,000. The Calgary Pavilion joins two other pavilions on the Trail, one in Cobourg, Ontario, and the other in Fredericton, New Brunswick. New Pavilions are being planned for 1998.

PUT YOUR NAME ON THE TRANS CANADA TRAIL

Thousands of Canadians, communities and corporations have already contributed to permanently put their names and messages on the Trans Canada Trail. Their names are here. Their reasons are many.

Peggy Ann Wilkes of Montreal wrote, "I would like to donate three metres of trail. It is in loving memory that I donate for my mother and father. I know that they would be very proud to know that they are helping to link this big beautiful country together."

Tsai Yassaku of Nishinomatsu Japan, shown in this great Canadian undertaking, wrote to donate to the Trail:

"I would really like to share the Trail with people I love in the country to which I have a great attachment."

Maria Rowles, a teacher librarian at St. Bernadette's School in Oakville, Ontario, initiated a challenge for students to "read their way across Canada". If the students were able to meet this reading trek across our land (15,000 books in total), the library would donate \$360 from its book fair proceeds to purchase 10 metres of Trail. Whole Maria Rowles: "I am very pleased to forward our library's \$360 donation. We look forward to displaying our certificate and crest at the school."

From all walks of life, Canadians everywhere are sharing the vision of this magnificent outdoor undertaking.

EACH DONATION OF \$36 MAKES A METRE OF TRAIL HAPPEN

Each and every gift donation will be officially acknowledged by your name or the name of a friend or in remembrance of a loved one, or by your company, school or organization, permanently inscribed in a Trail Pavilion in a Province or Territory of your choice. You will also receive a personalized Trail certificate, a crest and a tax receipt. And the number of trail metres that you can make happen is unlimited.

PUT YOUR OWN MESSAGE ON THE TRAIL

With every donation of 10 metres (\$360), donors are entitled to inscribe a permanent message or tribute which will be displayed on a special panel in a Trail Pavilion of your choice. This panel is especially suited to people or organizations who would like to inscribe a few words about someone special or have a group of names appear together in the Pavilion. For more information about putting a message on the Trail, call our toll free line: 1-800-465-3636.

GIVE A GIFT OF LASTING METRES THIS COMING FESTIVE SEASON

The holiday season gives someone you love a "trail metre" or more of the land you love. By putting their name on this great Trail, you'll be giving a gift of honour to share with those who care so much to you - or in remembrance of one you love. It can cost so little and means so much.

YES, I/W/we want to support the Trans Canada Trail and wish to donate \$36 for each trail metre
NUMBER OF METRES 3 x \$36 = \$108 7 x \$36 = \$252 10 x \$36 = \$360 14 x \$36 = \$504

TRANS CANADA TRAIL METRE DONATION FORM (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

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TELEPHONE HOME _____ WORK _____

ONE WAY TO MAKE YOUR DONATION BY CREDIT CARD VISA MASTERCARD

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Please make cheque payable to TRANS CANADA TRAIL FOUNDATION.
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Perreault passes
on Mexican
angry over
Bombardier

PHOTO COURTESY OF CANADA'S FOREIGN MINISTRY

Undiplomatic attack

When Mexico City prime minister Guillermo Aguilar appointed Canadian Ambassador Marc Perreault for an interview about the North American Free Trade Agreement, Perreault suggested they have lunch at the upscale University Club, where he is a member. On Sept. 17, the two sat at the dinner table along with the ambassador's press attaché, Edwards del Burgo. While a photographer arrived from *Milwaukee Journal*, the newspaper where Aguilar works—he was turned away at the entrance for lack of a media pass, Perreault ate in stride, agreeing to do the photo session later at the embassy. At lunch, the tape recorder was rolling and the ambassador seemed to enjoy himself—and his audience—without benefit of alcohol as they held a free-wheeling, two-hour exchange in Spanish about trade, Mexico's transition to democracy, and the shifts of local politics. After dessert, the ambassador issued an picketing the tab “It was a great interview.” Aguilar observed last week, “and a great scandal.”

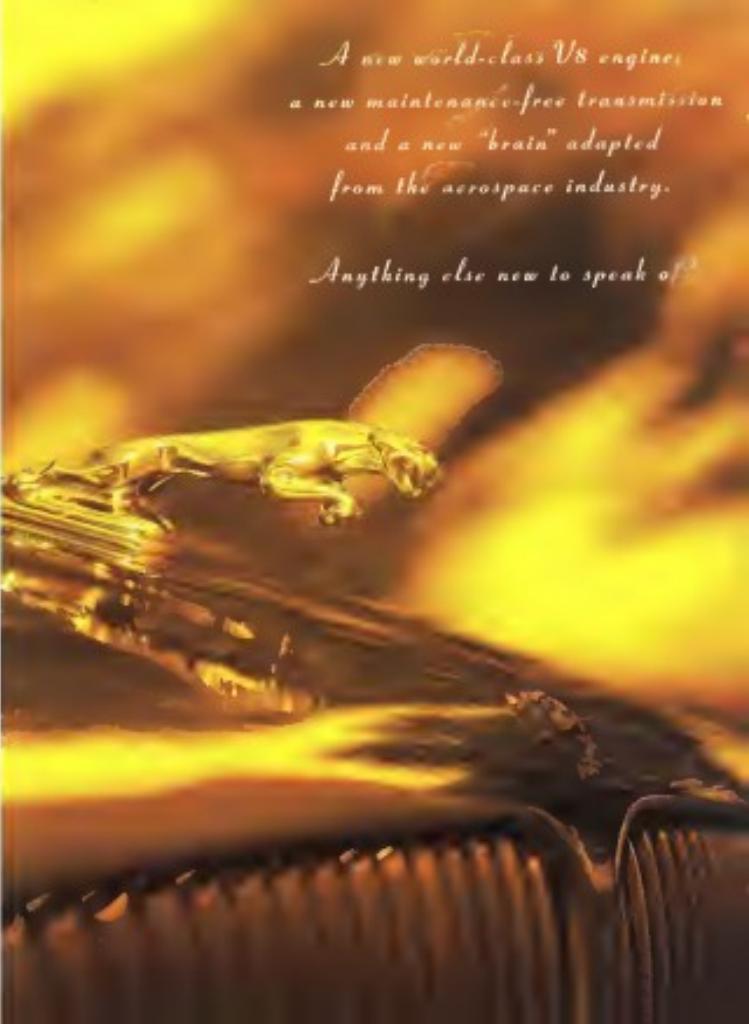
A scandal because Perreault, a veteran diplomat, made remarks so politically undiplomatic that he requested a reassignment shortly after they were published. The Mexican government “firmly protested” his indictment of the country’s corrupt business practices and human rights abuses—as well as

Or perhaps he did. Perreault, 57, was not talking last week, but Ottawa was less than lavish on the career diplomat of more than 30 years. The former associate deputy minister for Africa and the Middle East, whose last posting was as ambassador to Cairo, remains on active duty in Mexico until he returns to Ottawa in a few weeks. “He didn’t resign,” said del Burgo. “He came to the conclusion that his effectiveness had been diminished.” Admirers merely pointed to Perreault’s admission that bin Laden was “beyond stupid” and that he repeated Canada’s policy against blockades in international trade. Clearly, Ottawa was not overly concerned about sending a tough message to the government of President Ernesto Zedillo.

The Bombardier deal had been paid off to the hilt of Canada-Mexico relations. Prime Minister Jean Chrétien wrote to Zedillo in September after the company was suddenly disqualified from bidding on a contract it thought it had all but won. Zedillo, who has stated his administration is fighting corruption, later suspended the bidding process pending an investigation, and telephoned Chrétien on Oct. 3 to assure him that it would proceed lawfully when it re-opened. But that could take time. After meeting the head of GEC Alsthom, Bombardier’s French partner on the subway project, last week in Paris, Zedillo copied the two firms to negotiate with their competitor—a Spanish-Japanese-Mexican consortium—a disarming arrangement that could end the affair. Bombardier agreed to talk, but its lawyers are weighing whether to seek a court injunction to stop a new bidding call—and whether to sue the subway authority.

By mid-July, end, both Ottawa and Mexico City were downplaying the mid-mix-up. Yet in Mexico, government critics were welcoming Perreault’s frank comments as a long-awaited wake-up call. “I believe the ambassador’s declaration shows honesty and courage,” said Rafael Castillo Peniche, a lawyer and opposition politician. “He was right to target in describing Mexico’s culture of corruption.” Castillo hopes last week’s diplomatic incident will jump-start Zedillo’s professed fight against corruption. With Jean Chrétien’s Trans Canada heading to Mexico and other Latin American countries early in the new year, Marc Perreault’s verbal subversion may ultimately prove to be futile at best.

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The average number
has now been recalculated.



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We might simply tell you what hasn't changed about Jaguar's newest sedans.

But that would make for a very brief story. And with over 1,600 components that are new or revised, the XJ8 merits the attention of every serious driving enthusiast.

Consider, for example, the AJ-V8 engine. Having proved its mettle in the acclaimed Jaguar XK8, this all-aluminum, 32-valve engine is now powering every XJ Series sedan as well. It produces an astounding 290 horsepower (370 in the supercharged XJR). Yet, remarkably, the AJ-V8

is more fuel-efficient than the 6-cylinder engine it replaces, while providing even greater acceleration than the legendary Jaguar V12. And perhaps just as surprisingly, your XJ8 will need no major scheduled maintenance for the first 160,000 km.¹

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complete with sealed, gold-plated, multi-lock connectors — controls your jaguar's electrical function with utter reliability.

The body of the Xj8 has received a similar degree of attention. The monocoque design now has improved torsional rigidity for better stability, superior handling and a quieter, safer ride. The side panels have 60% more reinforcement for impact resistance. The body is now buttressed with high-tensile steel in more than twice as many panels as before. And our new jewel-effect head lamps

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10% increase in brightness

On the skin of your Jaguar, an enduring ten-step paint finish is applied to zinc-coated steel that actually heals itself after minor nicks to prevent corrosion.

And as for the interior, let it be said that in spite of all the changes, it is still unmistakably jaguar. The dash and door panels have been resculpted, not only to allow the burl walnut to surround you even more luxuriously. The seats are still of rich Connally leather, but are more back farther to allow 0 mm more leg room. For your

convenience, the controls of your stereo system are now found on the steering column, with the keypad for your optional cellular phone located on the centre console. And for added safety, the new side-impact air bags are inside the outer bolster of each front seat's backrest, protecting driver and passenger regardless of each user's position.

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World NOTES

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RENO SPEAKS OUT

U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno said she was "miffed" that talks to President Bill Clinton failed to notify the Justice department about indiscretions of 44 White House coffee receptions until three days after they allegedly occurred—and one day after the scandal of Clinton's infidelity at the White House. Clinton reiterated the tapes show he did nothing wrong at the events, attended by major political contributors.

CASTRO'S CAUTION

Cuban Communists ended its first full-party congress since 1991 by backing away from further economic reforms. The three-day event endorsed one-party rule and failed to permit small private businesses. Urging greater efficiency, Vice-President Carlos Lage said Cuba's 1997 growth rate will hit only 2.1 per cent—down from 7.8 per cent last year. President Fidel Castro, 71, quashed speculation that he is ill by giving a speech that lasted almost seven hours.

THE SON RISES

Three years after his father's death and his promotion to "Dear Leader," North Korea's reclusive Kim Jong Il was named "Great Leader"—the country's effigy basis and general secretary of the ruling party. When his father Kim II Sung, died in 1994, Kim assumed his duties but not his titles. Now, he has apparently consolidated power and is soon expected to take the one remaining title: president.

SURRENDER IN THE HAGUE

After months of American pressure on Croatian President Franjo Tudjman, 60 Bosnian Croats surrendered to the International War Crimes Tribunal in The Hague. The suspects have been charged in connection with a 1993 campaign of ethnic cleansing in central Bosnia's Livno Valley that included the notorious Ahmed Hadzic in which 40 Muslim refugees—at least 41 people—were killed.

SPIDED KILLS

Road deaths have risen faster in U.S. states that have increased highway speed limits, an insurance industry study showed. The report estimated that 600 more people died from April and December, 1996, in 12 states that had raised the legal government fixed-the-speed limit, national insurance



DEADLY TORRENTS: Residents of Acapulco form a human chain to cross a flooded road after Hurricane Pauline rampaged for four days along Mexico's Pacific coast. The storm, which experts said was fuelled by warm El Nino ocean currents, killed at least 120 people as it ravaged homes, threw cars and boulders into the air and unleashed severe mudslides. Acapulco, a major tourist centre, was among the hardest hit, although no foreigners were reported dead. Many of the victims were shantytown dwellers caught away in their sleep by flash floods. President Ernesto Zedillo cut short an official trip to Germany to return home.

A trial over France's Vichy era

A historic war crimes trial of an official of the pro-Nazi Vichy regime in France was adjourned into continuing just three days after it opened. A Parisian court ordered that defendant Maurice Papon, 80, be released from prison for the duration of his trial and of any appeals if he is convicted. "I'm completely exhausted," said his attorney, said Christophe Saucat, 66. His two sisters were among the 1,500 Jews from Bordeaux allegedly rounded up and deported by Papon's forces while he was an official during the German occupation in the Second World War. The two sisters died at the Nazi death camp of Auschwitz in Poland. Although the prosecution asked that Papon, who

underwent triple-bypass heart surgery last year, be hospitalized under guard, the court said it was satisfied by words another doctor in the trial as a way behind bars.

Papon, in fact, is a budget minister under current French president Valery Giscard d'Estaing, as the highest ranking French official to face war crimes charges from the period. He has repeatedly denied responsibility, saying he was only a secondary official under French and German supervisors. A total of 70,000 Jews were deported during the Vichy years. Only 2,500 survived.

Documenting a massive slaughter of Hutus

A detailed human rights report confirmed that Rwandan and Zairian Tutsi forces fighting to oust former Zairian strongman Mobutu Sese Seko killed down mind Hutu refugees in revenge for the 1994 genocide in Rwanda. After a six-week investigation, Human Rights Watch Africa concluded that thousands of refugees were summarily executed in the early days of the campaign by Laurent Kabila, new president of the renamed Democratic Republic of the Congo. A Canadian peacekeeping initiative in Zaire a year ago was halted when refugees began heading back to Rwanda. Aid groups had urged a foreign troops to remain, letting such reprisal attacks.

Business

CAREER

They have blazed a trail to the top of the corporate heap, but they are few in number



CANADA'S TOP WOMENCEOS

BY DIANNE MALEY

Every three months, Shirley Whittaker gets together with a few friends to talk about work, life and the pressures of a demanding career. "We talk about leadership, but we also get down to the meaning of life: What do you want? Do we have it? What makes our lives difficult?" She calls these meetings "girls' lunches" in pique that an old stereotypical mould these women now defiantly break. Whittaker is president and chief executive officer of EOS Canada Ltd., one of the country's leading providers of information technology services. The other "girls" are Diane McGarry, chairman, CEO and president of Xeris Canada Inc., and Maureen Karpman Doran, president and general manager of General Motors of Canada Ltd.

Recently, a fourth woman joined the elite circle when Karpman Doran hosted a dinner for Shireen Grant, founder of Washington, Pa., who spent 25 years climbing the corporate ladder at Ford Motor Co.; Grant moved to Oakville, Ont., in April to become president of one CEO of the automaker's Canadian subsidiary, with 15 assembly plants crisscrossing over more than half billion vehicles each year for the North American market.

No, the executive suite in Canada has not suddenly become an equal-opportunity workplace (page 80). But while men and mostly

outnumber women in the upper echelons of corporate power, a gradual transformation is taking place. Together, Grant, Whittaker, McGarry and Karpman Doran head companies with \$65 billion in revenues and more than 51,000 employees. To their list of business leaders add Joy Cullen, who took over as president and chief executive of Encana Corp. and, in April, Peggy Wade, founder, president and CEO of Royal Oak Metals Inc.; Carol Stephenson, president and chief executive of Senator Broome Centre Inc., and Deb Parkinson-Morrison, chosen last week to lead a new oil sands company for Gulf Canada Resources Ltd. Then there is Irene Rasmussen, president of Kraft Canada Inc.; Catherine Beck, president of MNP Industries Ltd.; Barbara Thorne, president of Pilkington Canada Ltd.; Caron Strauss, president of General Mills Canada Inc.; Annette Verschuren, president of Home Depot Canada; and Janice Toninelli, president of Claude Insurance Co. of Canada.

On the following pages, *Maclean's* profiles eight women from the top five largest of corporate charters. It is a diverse group. Toronto-born Karpman Doran is head of the country's largest company by revenue. She and Grant have worked their way up through the ranks of the auto industry. Whittaker, from Ottawa, and Stephenson, born in Petrolia, Ont., have built careers in technology, as has California native McGarry. Cullen of Encana,

Calgary (left), Whitmire, Karpman Doran, Parkinson-Morrison and Rasmussen, while men still vastly outnumber women in the upper echelons of power, a new world of corporate challenges—ambitious, energetic and competitive—is bringing about a gradual transformation. All agree, however, that culture has its place.

also grew up in Nova Scotia's Annapolis Valley, is one of the few women to head a large, publicly traded Canadian company. With, who left Nevada for Canada in 1979, has made her mark in the groundbreaking, mega-rich oil and gas mining business. And Parkinson-Morrison is the first woman CEO in the auto oligopoly.

What these women share, besides intelligence and ability, are energy, ambition and courage. There is an almost unanimous sense of optimism for former British prime minister Margaret Thatcher. "I love her ability to sort through the bull, her no-nonsense personality," says Wade. They disagree, however, in their opinions about the differences between male and female business leaders and what they keep women from the top jobs.

Wade says that while she might be more inclined than a man to consider the social effects of her actions, "at the end of the day, the hard decisions are probably exactly the same." Stephenson, however, believes that women by nature tend to possess better interpersonal skills and are more suited than men to the task of consensus-building, attributes that are vital to important in telecommunications and corporate robotics. "The old command-and-control military style of management doesn't work in a knowledge-based economy," she says.

Whittaker, who has sometimes been mistaken for a secretary, thinks women in business are less preoccupied with status, likely because they have been granted so little in corporate life. Grant adds that the women she knows tend to save their businesses basically not only are they more mindful of employees, but they are more aware of their company's image in the eyes of customers and investors—and willing to make long-term investments to improve it. In many cases, they also show more sensitivity to the demands of a family. Stephenson says she will think twice before scheduling a conference call for 7 a.m., when women employees may be trying to get children off to school or day care. "Companies are realizing they have to be more flexible," she adds.

All agree that tradition has its price. Both McGarry and Grant have owned 13 houses while building their careers. Wade, whose 17-year marriage ended in 1995, says that women in business are often held back by their reluctance to move or to take on extra responsibility at their family's expense. "You know, you have to give something up. There are only 24 hours in a day." Once a woman has reached a certain level, she can afford to have someone to look after the children. But "pulling up that line, through mid-life transitions, is never easy," says Grant, "and a lot of hard decisions have to be made."

Even with many of these hard decisions behind them, most senior women executives are still heavily aware of the glass ceiling. "The always say that we'll have to wait equality when we have as many incompetent women in positions as we have incompetent men," says Whittaker. But Shirley Whittaker, meanwhile, calls the obstacles women face both institutional and psychological—a glass ceiling "because it's like it's even harder to break through glass." The fact that so few of talented women have made it to the top only deepens the new formidable losses hammer retrace.

While Cullen, Stephenson, and Grant, some believe that women by nature tend to possess better interpersonal skills and are more suited than men to the task of consensus-building



Eight Women at the Top

To reach the pinnacle of corporate success takes drive, brains and a sense of humor

As Shereigh Whittaker sits at the top and she responds by talking about the many times she presented her played a lesser role. At a meeting once, she was seated next to Eric Jackson, brother of founder Bill Jackson. When Jackson asked where she worked, Whittaker named the firm where she was then president, Canadian Satellite Communications, Sudbury, Ontario. "I understand they have a crackjack woman running that company. Do you know her?" Replied Whittaker. "I do," she said.

Laughing, Whittaker says she apparently did not fit Jackson's image of a woman boss. "You have to take that kind of social and slight in stride."

Whittaker, who prefers fluid freedom to power suits, is now president and chief executive of EDS Canada Ltd. The company is a subsidiary of Electronic Data Systems Corp. of Dallas, which was acquired by Ross Perot in 1986, bought by General Motors Corp. in 1989 and spun off as an independent company in 1996. EDS provides data processing services for banks, government departments and a wide range of other clients.

Whittaker keeps heading a company to running a big family

Shereigh Whittaker
EDS Canada Ltd.

•
Revenue:
No. of employees: 2,600
1996 revenue: \$487 million

Top tier, she is the apparent exception to the rule. Her second husband, William Morgan, a former CRTC ombudsman, has two daughters from a previous marriage. Whittaker has three children aged 13 to 21. In 1983, when Whittaker was 16, "I never planned that I didn't change diapers before I came to work," she said in 1994, when she was named to the annual Maclean's Honor Roll of Canadian achievers.

Whittaker says her success is partly the result of being in the right place at the right time. "It's rare you succeed on your own." The trick is to recognize opportunity, she says. "I've always been surrounded by somebody who had a new project and says, 'I don't think we can afford to do it, but if you pay me more money or promise me a big cut, all of sudden there are markets.'

Since taking the top job at EDS, Whittaker says, her management style has changed, too. While in the past she sometimes tried to avoid conflict by deferring to others, she says, "now I'm more direct. It's better for the people who work with me and for me."

To improve EDS's competitive position, she recently reorganized the company's sales and operations department. "It keeps us from having that dichotomy where sales people say, 'I can't run this job at a profit because the sales people cut it too short,' and sales people say operations guys are not paid well." Shaking things up a bit has another benefit, as are around EDS these days: forgets that Whittaker is boss.

DUNNIE WALEY

"You have to make sure everyone is working and playing well," she says, "and make sure everybody feels they're being treated fairly."

After earning an MBA from York University, Whittaker became a corrections investigation officer for the federal government in 1975. Next, she worked as a consultant, followed by a stint at the CRTC as vice-president of planning and corporate affairs. In 1985, she joined Canadian Satellite Communications, Sudbury, Ontario. "We left four years later to lead EDS. She sits on the boards of five other companies, including the Royal Bank and Imperial Oil.

Remarkably, she has advanced her status while still having a busy family life. Her second husband, William Morgan, a former CRTC ombudsman, has two daughters from a previous marriage. Whittaker has three children aged 13 to 21. In 1983, when Whittaker was 16, "I never planned that I didn't change diapers before I came to work," she said in 1994, when she was named to the annual Maclean's Honor Roll of Canadian achievers.

Whittaker says her success is partly the result of being in the right place at the right time. "It's rare you succeed on your own." The trick is to recognize opportunity, she says. "I've always been surrounded by somebody who had a new project and says, 'I don't think we can afford to do it, but if you pay me more money or promise me a big cut, all of sudden there are markets.'

Since taking the top job at EDS, Whittaker says, her management style has changed, too. While in the past she sometimes tried to avoid conflict by deferring to others, she says, "now I'm more direct. It's better for the people who work with me and for me."

To improve EDS's competitive position, she recently reorganized the company's sales and operations department. "It keeps us from having that dichotomy where sales people say, 'I can't run this job at a profit because the sales people cut it too short,' and sales people say operations guys are not paid well." Shaking things up a bit has another benefit, as are around EDS these days: forgets that Whittaker is boss.

DUNNIE WALEY



Maureen Kempston-Darkes
General Motors of Canada Ltd.

•
Dollars, Det.
No. of employees: 30,000
1996 revenue: \$28.1 billion

In the male-dominated auto industry, it was inevitable that Maureen Kempston-Darkes's appointment to the top job at General Motors of Canada Ltd. in 1994 would send shock waves. She was the first woman to rise to such a lofty position at the giant automaker, but she had come from the legal and governmental affairs side of the business—the usual path to a senior executive post at the world's largest industrial company. Regardless of the reaction on the shop floor, however, Kempston-Darkes's promotion marked a turning point of sorts in the history of Canadian business. Shereigh Whittaker, president and chief executive officer of EDS Canada, and Diane McCarty chairman and chief executive officer of Xerox Canada, were having lunch at a restaurant in Toronto on the day GM made the announcement. "We thought it was ridiculous," Whittaker says. "Now there is a critical mass."

A layer by layer, Kempston-Darkes, 48, says she achieved her current position through determination, energy and an appetite for hard work. "We always have got to enjoy a great challenge," she says. As head of a company that employs 30,000 people, with a history of strained labor-management relations and a productivity rating that is one of the worst in the auto industry, Kempston-Darkes obviously faces challenges aplenty. Her ambition: "I want every employee to come to work at General Motors every day and say, 'I can make a difference. I can contribute to this business.'"

Ned De Koker, a vice-chair of business development for GM and former head of the Automotive Parts Manufacturers' Association, characterizes Kempston-Darkes as tenacious. "When she gets on an issue, that's important to her, she hangs on." Her

bosses, however, describe the GM Canada president as a team player who places great store in open communication. Flexibility and some informality are critically important qualities in business today, she says. "When you work in a rigid, hierarchical structure"—as do so many for years applied to GM—"that limits opportunities for people to communicate."

SEI, Kempston-Darkes observes, is the notion that she might deal with things differently simply because she is a woman. "The challenges that confront black executives are the same as those they are men or women," she says. "Gone are the days when you focused on the same kinds of issues that men would focus on. That's why you're in the job."

Although the GM Canada president can appear stiff and formal in public, Kempston says Kempston-Darkes is a "real woman who calls friends 'kids,'" the type of person "she'd expect to punch me on the shoulder." If that sort of play doesn't always come through, Whittaker says it is perhaps because Kempston-Darkes is overmanaged by the many handlers. "She's not someone who is thoughtful, determined, funny woman—and very smart."

Not surprisingly, the head of the Canadian Auto Workers union sees her in a less flattering light. "She would never think of taking down a plant and talking to us," says Bruce Hargrove, a leader of a bitter three-week strike against the company last year by more than 30,000 hourly workers. Before that dispute, Kempston-Darkes managed assembly-line workers by sending them letters explaining that the company would have to contract out more work to stay competitive, which meant some would have to lose their jobs or work for less money. "She wants to dress everything from the top down," says Hargrove. "Rather than changing the skills and opinions of people to make things work."

After graduating from the University of Toronto and working for two years at a Toronto law firm, Kempston-Darkes joined GM Canada's legal staff in 1979. From 1980 to 1990, she moved rapidly up the ranks, doing stints in head of the tax department, director of public affairs and vice-president of corporate affairs. In 1990, she joined GM Canada's board of directors and in 1992, she added the titles of general counsel and corporate secretary to her responsibilities. She and her husband, Larry Barnes, also a lawyer, have no children.

Looking back, Kempston-Darkes says the greatest influence in her life was her mother. Her father, a credit manager for a paper company, died when she was 12, leaving Vern Kempston to raise three small children on her modest income as a bookkeeper. "My mother was determined that we would all have a very good education because that was the route to opportunity," she recalls. "She used to tell us that if you set your sights high enough and work hard enough, you can achieve whatever you set out to do." Today, one of her two brothers is a doctor and the other a dentist.

Her advice for other women hoping to climb the corporate ladder echoes her mother's: "Go at everything with a purpose. Be there to make a difference. And never lose a sense of balance in your life, because it's important."



Bobbie Gaunt recalls the time she was approached by the producers of *Seuss Show* about co-sponsoring the children's television series. Gaunt, who became president and chief executive officer of Ford Motor Co. of Canada last April, was then general marketing manager of the Ford division of parent Ford Motor Co. She thought the idea was brilliant.

Seuss Street
would get the money it needed and Ford's reputation for safety would be enhanced. "You wouldn't see Big Bird eat them saying, 'Come in and buy now—best price ever on the Ford Windstar,'" Gaunt says. Instead, the popular character would say "Children in the back seat and buckle up."

Some of her male colleagues at

University of Pittsburgh with a bachelor's degree in business administration. Starting out at Ford in 1973 as a stenographer in the Pittsburgh sales office, she worked her way up the organization. She was the first woman in Ford's management training program. In 1978, she helped form a women's networking committee, involving women from various Ford departments to discuss how the company could make its cars more appealing to female customers.

Gaunt's appointment to the top Ford job in Canada marked her 12th promotion since joining the company. While she moved around, her husband, Bob, who has two children from his first marriage, stayed in Detroit, where he worked as a stadium consultant. In 1987, when the

company sent her to California as western regional manager, Bob took early retirement "and we relocated together for the first time."

After more, Gaunt felt she had to prove herself all over again. "Everytime it was, 'Show me,'" like other women executives, she has occasionally been mistaken for a secretary. Not only is the glass ceiling still firmly in place, she says, "But I'm not even sure I've broken through it." Even so, Gaunt says her experiences at Ford Canada have proved a revolving door. "Here in Canada," she says, "there has been no skepticism or question whatsoever." Big Bird would surely approve.

Gaunt, 50, was born in Washington, Pa., and graduated from the



Bobbie Gaunt
Ford Motor Co. of Canada Ltd.
Oakville, Ont.
No. of employees: 54,000
1995 revenue: \$25 billion

Diane McGarry
Xerox Canada Inc.
Toronto
No. of employees: 4,200
1995 revenue: \$1.2 billion

A 12-year career in her high-school sweethearts' had just ended and McGarry, a college dropout, was struggling to support her infant daughter. On a tip from a friend, the Oakville, Ont., native landed a job as a Xerox sales rep based in Port Hope, Ont. It was upped from there. "I took the tough job," the lone assignment, says McGarry, 48, who came to Canada when she was appointed chief executive in 1983. "I didn't have a master plan for becoming CEO of Xerox Canada, but I did set small goals, and I never let anyone tell me I couldn't do something."

Todays, McGarry oversees 4,000 employees. She says her biggest rewards are giving her hearing aids, her smile and her sense of humor. McGarry says a collaborative approach to managing is the hallmark of today's leaders. At Xerox Canada, 50 salaries account for 40 per cent of the executive team and these are the first five constant-based executives. Elevating women in good businesses, she says, because it puts companies in touch with their markets. "The world is not made up of white men over 40."

McGarry credits her parents with fostering her fierce sense of independence. Bill and Mary Daly encouraged their seven children to attend college for free so home they would learn to bread for themselves. McGarry went to the University of British Columbia in California part-time, graduating with a bachelor's degree in business administration when her daughter, Rachel, was 10.

A single mother, she is trying to teach the lessons of success to her daughter and other women. "If you want the top job, you have to be willing to take tough assignments where bottom-line performance is the measure of your success," she says. That's why she often recommends a sales career. "It doesn't matter what you look like or who you know. All that matters is that you sell."

McGarry adds that women have to take responsibility for their careers. "She had 13 assignments in the past 36 years, and every one of them I've personally asked for."

Obviously, she has been doing something right.

D.M.

D.M.



Dee Parkinson-Marcon
Oil Heavy Oil

Calgary
No. of employees: N/A
Revenue: N/A
To be incorporated in early 1996

She will bring to the job not only a broad grasp of oil sands technology, but the marketing skills she developed as manager of Petro-Canada's western refinery.

By her own admission, Parkinson is an unlikely candidate for Big Oil's charting oil club. She describes herself as an introverted outsider, a characteristic that is evident in her eating habits in the heart of cattle country;

Parkinson is a committed vegetarian.

The job interview may stem from her upbringing. Her father, an electrical engineer in the air force, moved the family often. His deployments lasted 14 months in 12 years in three different countries. She graduated from Queen's University in Kingston, Ont., in 1979 with a Bachelor of Applied Science in mineral processing and metallurgy, one of four women in a class of 200. To broaden her skills, she went back to Queen's for an MBA in 1982. She is married for a second time and is a stepmother to two adult children.

Parkinson is a communicator who prefers directness with questions rather than telling them what to do. During her tenure in Fort McMurray, her focus has shifted directly with that was the respect of many of the plant's unionized workers, even when she slashed 400 jobs. "She lived every head-on," said Walter Manning, secretary treasurer of Local 707 of the Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union of Canada. "She didn't just sit in her office and write memos and say this is the way it's going to be." Parkinson agreed to an early retirement package for older workers and an educational incentive, including up to four years of university tuition, for younger ones.

Given her management style, her greatest challenge may be getting along with the grandfather Bryan, who has a reputation for shooting first and asking questions later. Gulf Canada plans to be a controlling shareholder of Gulf Heavy Oil's stock, giving it control over every aspect of the company. Even so, for Parkinson the allure of creating something new is irresistible.

B.M.

the world's second-largest automaker, however, failed to attract Gaunt's enthusiasm for the proposal. Said one executive then: "Kids don't buy cars."

To Gaunt, that exchange illustrates one of the ways in which women managers think differently from men. Women, she says, tend to show more concern for their company's image and are more open to "soft" ideas that might not generate an immediate payback. The *Seuss Show* sponsorship, which ultimately resulted in Ford's blessing, is a good example. Such endorsement may not influence sales in the next 30 days, but they will eventually, she says.

Gaunt, 50, was born in Washington,

Pa., and graduated from the

first women's CED in the history of the Canadian petroleum industry.

Carol Stephenson
Stutter Resource Centre Inc.

Offices
No. of employees: 1,000
1995 revenue: \$14 million

Anyone who keeps an eye on the telecommunications industry may have been surprised a few years ago when Canada's nine regional phone companies asked Ottawa to allow competition in their local markets. After all, the industry is already suffering mightily from long-distance competition. Why ask for more? The short answer is that the companies wanted—and got—some things in return. In a ruling handed down in May, the CRTC agreed to let Bell Canada, B.C. Tel and the trunks across the country into the previously protected cable television business starting next year. Behind the daring move was 45-year-old Carol Stephenson, president and chief executive officer of Stutter Resource Centre Inc., the alliance's marketing and development arm. Stephenson counts the CRTC decision among her greatest achievements. "It surprised everyone," says Stephenson, whose sales skills helped persuade the telephone companies that her plan was wise. "It was radical, but we did it and it had good results."

Stephenson, who spent 20 years at Bell Canada before moving to Stutter in 1993, learned the value of entrepreneurship from a far-

mer Bell vice-president and mentor, Owen McMechan. At one point, she put forward a proposal that her bosses rejected. "If your idea is not accepted, it was either stupid or you didn't sell it well," McMechan told her. "Remember this; it was probably the second."

Born in Petrolia, Ont., Stephenson started out as a management trainee at Bell Canada in 1973, after graduating from the University of Toronto with an honors BA. One of her early assignments was at a Toronto switching centre where there were 60 technicians, all men. During her first week on the job, her boss never spoke to her. Finally, she walked into his office. "This is no place for a woman," he said, "but since you're here I guess we better work out." Eighteen months later, he recommended her for a promotion. In retrospect, she says, it was one of the easiest jobs she ever had.

While working at Bell, Stephenson became convinced that companies had to change their managerial styles to adapt to a knowledge-based economy. Women, she believes, function well in a co-operative, open-based environment, which makes them ideally suited to today's business world. "Literacy is cash. From a pure business perspective, I firmly believe that if you have a diversity of views, you get a better decision."

D.M.

Joy Collier
Exedicare Inc.

Markham, Ont.
No. of employees: 34,400
1995 revenue: \$1.5 billion



Exedicare board member, she became president and chief executive officer of the Markham, Ont.-based company.

With government budget cuts changing the face of health care in Canada and the United States, Collier's experience in both countries was important to Exedicare, says deputy chairman Fred Ladd. In fact, the company increases 75 per cent of its revenues stills from the border. Exedicare also plays a prominent role in Collier's frontier expertise: most of the company's employees are health-care professionals, and 90 per cent are women. Says Collier, 59, "I know what's like to run a business to work with females, to communicate with staff."

Collier, who has never married, combines a concern for people with hard-headed business sense. Exedicare is riding on that mixture of compassion and commitment to sustain the company's impressive success in recent years. Since Jan. 1, 1994, its annual profits have doubled to \$81.2 million. After only two months on the job, Collier helped negotiate a \$350-million takeover of Ontario-based Health Care Co. With a publicly traded company, she says, the bottom line is clear. "It's much easier to know by what star you're investing in the for-profit sector." Investors hope Collier reads their collective pulse as well as she monitors the health of her former patients.

D.M.



Peggy Witte
Royal Oak Mines Inc.

Sudbury
No. of employees: 1,300
1995 revenue: \$250 million

an Ontario government research agency. Three years later, at 28, she borrowed \$80,000 to start her own consulting business. Intent on starting a mining operation, she subsequently bought 100 tons of a publicly traded company, Neptune Resources, \$200.

Although she was ultimately unsuccessful,

Witte took the \$8 million she received for her shares and created Royal Oak Mines, becoming chairman, president and CEO.

As the company has grown, Witte says her management style has changed. "I started out being very dictatorial. Everybody in head office reported to me." Now she says she is more of a team player: "I had to learn to trust other executives so we could work our problems together." Still, she cautions any noted that women run their companies differently from men. "At the end of the day, the hard decisions are exactly the same."

With family responsibilities thrown in, women executives face even tougher challenges than their male counterparts, says Witte. "Once you're the CEO, you can afford to have help," she says. "But getting up that hill through middle management—senior management, a lot of hard decisions have to be made." Rather than sacrificing their family life, many women drop out of the race, she says. In her own case, Witte readily acknowledges putting career before family, and has paid a price. In 1991, after 17 years of marriage, she and her husband, Bill, an engineer, separated. They had no children.

Witte says she is still driven by the satisfaction of building something out of nothing. She points to the Kenose mine, a gold and copper property that Royal Oak is developing in northern British Columbia. "When I lived in a ski place and walked around, there was nothing there," she recalls. Three years later, "there's a \$40-million mine, 700 new jobs and \$600 million worth generated in the B.C. economy. You stand back and say, 'Wow.'"

Witte holds up former British prime minister Margaret Thatcher as one of her heroes. "She's straightforward and hard-core—kind of the way I am." Even Witte's enemies would agree with that.

D.M.

Joy Collier still remembers the painful negotiations on the basis of children she cared for as a young nurse in Madison, Wis. Some were the sons and daughters of parents who could not afford the medical insurance necessary to pay for basic treatment, recalls the president and CEO of Exedicare Inc., Canada's largest long-term-care company. The right would have moved almost any nurse, but for Collier, compensation was not enough. The native of Kitchener, N.S., set about trying to improve the health-care system. First, she returned to the University of Wisconsin, where she had earned a master's degree in nursing, and graduated five years later with a PhD in health services administration. Then she started working with the U.S. government to bring together policy makers and health-care activists. "I'd had it up to here with kids dying," says Collier. "They wouldn't have died in Canada."

In 1983, Collier returned to Canada to head the University of Calgary's faculty of nursing. Last April, after two years as an

Stuck on the Ladder

Not only is the glass ceiling still in place, but men and women have very different views of the problem

BY JENNIFER WELLS

So a smattering of women have actually made it to the top of the heap, the corporate peacock, the apex of conventional business achievement. Canada now has women running 10 of the top 500 revenue-generating, publicly traded companies in the land. Blushes.

But the success stories are still well few. The blue-chip outliers that make up the tail of the longest, most profitable companies are far off women chief executive—branch plants of American giants stretching from the basics to the aperitif. From mining companies to telecom and techies, a woman may be senior vice-president of human resources, or corporate communications, but the big houses she usually is not. As for boards of directors, which could easily accommodate a broad range of professional women, just one per cent of all directors in Canada's top corporations are women according to a study released by Spencer Stuart, a Toronto-based consulting firm. And many of these are repeaters whose board-based appointments add up to a lifetime. Were it not for women execs starting businesses of their own to take the baton, the relevance of corporate leadership—X chromosome corporate class would be well

The picture is no brighter south of the border. Catalyst, a New York City research firm that monitors the advancement of women, says 57% of executive vice-president or higher posts for men in 1995. Catalyst totalled up the top five categories: 500 companies. Of the group of 2,500, Shatkin had had a chief financial officer who was a woman but made CEO; she bought Mariner Securities West Financial Corp. of Oaklawn, Calif., in a company swap with her husband, Herbert. Shatkin has become CEO of Mariner Inc., unknowns as to what are now. "We need," says Catalyst, "raise the bar before we truly make it."

Rather, the glass ceiling, a term that sounds two decades after it was coined, is still there. Invisible barriers—I know if there, I have to get past it—has merely, says Judith MacBride, associate research director of the Conference on successful women, “punctured” the ceiling.



For more information about the study, please contact the study coordinator at 415-505-7877 or via email at studycoordinator@sfccc.edu.

worked for them to get them where they are." Part and parcel of the study is a survey of Canada's top client executives that attempts to break down the top 100 clients' perceptions of how business leaders are faring in the recession and compare it to their own experience. Macmillan says he expects to publish the report in early December, and it's clear from the responses so far that such disparities still exist. "In an environment where business leaders are indicating that they are experiencing key skill shortages, the question needs to be asked, 'To whom do skills already exist in the market in the organizations, and who's helping those organizations from fully utilizing them?'"

Not only is the glass-making still with us, but so is the Old Toys Company. On behalf of Royal Trust, Enterprise Commissions recently surveyed more than 600 "affluent women"—defined as those in households with more than \$13,700 annual income. Three-quarters of the women surveyed, the majority of whom carry careers, said the IBM Boys network still makes it difficult for women to succeed in corporations. Sixty-one per cent said the opportunities offered to women are more limited than those offered to men, and 25 per cent said that taking a maternity leave can be as embarrassing as a career-oriented woman.

In the United States last year, Catalyst surveyed more than 450 executive women (vice-presidents and up) as well as more than 380 CEOs of Fortune 1000 companies. Three-quarters of the women surveyed said one of the keys to career success lies in consistently exceeding performance expectations; that is to say,



considered to be equal, women have to be better. Ninety-six percent said that developing a style with which male managers were comfortable was an essential career-enhancing strategy. One survey participant had some very suggestions for achieving success: "Don't be attractive. Beifyou're smart. Don't be negative. Present yourself as a woman. Don't be single. Don't be a divorcee." ¹⁴

Yes, that overstates the case. But there's no question that corporations have failed to eliminate barriers that are both structural and cultural. That is not to say, however, that men and women have very different views of what those barriers are. "They are," says the Catalyst report, "the consequence of unexamined assumptions about women's career interests and capabilities, and unadjusted policies and practices that permit the corporate culture."

Linda Duxbury, director of the Centre for Research and Education in Women and Work at Carleton University, recently produced a study that gets at the gender gap. For example, where 66 per cent of men surveyed said or sometimes actively communicated with employees, only 65 per cent of women said that was so. Where 51 per cent of men stated that a policy of flexshifting had been established within their companies, only 45 per cent of women did, with 14 per cent

"per cent" of business agreed with this statement. "I don't think organizations have a heart of a che," said one participant. "It's a real far north witness." The glass ceiling, says Bauldry, has merely been raised. "We haven't reached the penthouse," said Matt Sepe, president of Toronto-based People Tech Consulting Inc., which provides an example of the corporate ecosystem he believes everyone

ways rather than stay and fight, women are choosing opt out, scale back or start their own businesses.

ing: "In a lot of these organizations, the senior decision makers are talked about on a one-on-one basis," she might say. "People pick the people to talk to. We can get left out of that loop. They aren't the ones you run into in the hallways—they aren't the ones who are specifically sought out."

Sound board? "I am afraid not even knowing who's up for grabs, but rather a fitting of what you have to offer," says one executive. "It's true, some men, though not necessarily proficient, offer more money than others. It's like who's less expensive to hire." Adds another: "It's not about how many commitments at home. [We will] get into the office and do what we have to do."

Issue 1: Boys' night. A recent CEA board of the Caucasians in an area of U.S. multinationals that she will not name, invited her to a recently sold-out "Boys' night" club. "It's a boys' club," she says. "I asked what it was, and they said, 'It's a boys' club.' Says the Catalyst report: "This reflects a culture of male acceptance and culture war against the career progression and promotion of talented female managers."

At a luncheon speech 18 September, part of the week-long Conference of Influence, some presented by Chateau Laurier, and sponsored by a handful of Canadian foundations, Loyola Reservee shared her personal experience of being through the ranks, Balsillie, new general manager of Loews Development Canada Ltd., had recalled her days introducing for Boeing Corp. when a young executive introduced her this way: "This is Loyola Reservee, she has the greatest lens in the office." Dunderhead's commentary is one thing, but Reservee encountered another when she went to meet a prospective client agency at the United Nations. "I don't shake hands with women," said the girl, who then turned to hand exclusively the male Boeing executive who was asking the question.

men like Bauschens who manage to get their do-it-again exceeding performance expectations, by over-thinking in order to prove their ability. Weren't we all once to be smarter, more creative, more focused, more brilliant, simply better than men overall if they just tried? And they still get just 78 cents on the dollar in earnings compared with their male counterparts. "Sex bias just

Opponents take the long view. "Watered-down Generation-X women executives should be at the top," crowed *The Wall Street Journal* last week—the key word being "should." There are women who are in the pipeline and there are those destined to make it and for all the on-the-job gender busters it's not so much that they're in the pipeline, says one senior vice-president Buckley-Townsend. "The ones I'm doing in the pipeline." In other words, they are being directed into, self-selecting, jobs in human resources and general administration. Or those "backstage" jobs, the ones with line management responsibilities but which result in profits and losses, or in high-stakes budget assignments that attract the interests of others.

In Canada, Catalyst, based on women's career advancement, found that 60 per cent of American women occupied held staff positions—HR, administration and so on. In Canada, the number of women managers and administrators, a statistic of government, rose to more than \$10,000,000 in 1991 from 257,000 in 1986. So there is certainly a pool of potential. As there is often the educational status of women is exceeded. Fifty



More often than not, corporations fail to see the business case for forcing cultural change

two per cent of full-time undergraduate university students are women, according to the most recent numbers out of Statistics Canada. At the graduate level, 25 per cent of students pursuing doctorates half-finish are women. "There's a critical mass missing in that organizations can draw up." Absolutely," says MacBride-King. She adds some important details, particularly courageous and applied research, are frustratingly thin.

But will that leader pull ultimately change the face of corporate Canada? Mary Sepey says many male executives she talks to espouse the "stagnated time-frame theory"—that the imbalance will stay day right there. Eventually the current crop of aging male executives will retire, so the thinking goes, more women

will rise to the top. Says MacBride-King: "I think the time has come. In 1995, New York's Yankelovich Partners surveyed 300 highly paid career women in their 30s and 40s for *Fortune* magazine. An overwhelming 87 per cent said they had major or were considering a major career change. "To me that's a sign of total frustration with the system," says Sepey. And it's not sole, she says, to question the culture that breeds the discontent, "because right away you're off the succession plan." MacBride-King says she has seen a particularly high dropout rate in professional services firms—law, accounting, management consulting. Senior women are leaving when they get to the managing partner level, she says.

Yankelovich laid the blame in part on having to play corporate games with heavy sets of rules. By instead, women were choosing to opt out, scale back or establish their own businesses. CEOs and the teams they lead, says Sepey, are going to have to work harder at cultural change if they want to match that trend.

And corporations know it. Some have re-jiggered performance assessments, tying compensation directly to gender representation and promotion of "high potential" women. B.C. Tel has had such a system in place for three years. "We're not simply encouraging people to ensure we have the appropriate representation of women within the organization, we're requiring that by putting their variable compensation at risk," says Paul Smith, the company's senior vice-president of human resources. At B.C. Tel, 20 per cent of a manager's variable compensation is tied to the "people quadrant" of the manager's "scorecard." Part of the scoring next year will be based on ensuring that every senior executive has a career-development strategy in place for women. "Everyone is going to have to participate in that in order to make them a valuable asset," says Smith.

B.C. Tel's gender split in its executive ranks. Currently, two of its 18 executive officers are women—executive director of corporate communications, and vice-president of



MBA class at the University of Toronto. Women in the pipeline.

for forcing cultural change. And no wonder. Sepey still sees Industrial Age leaders marching around with that old hierarchical, command-and-control style of management. But one hold at Bay Street and Wall Street continues executives under pressure to raise stock prices, shareholders who have emerged as the primary stakeholders. Downscaling in the early part of this decade was aimed as much at appealing to rigid investors as in building so-called global enterprises. "Economic uncertainty and downscaling are causing it to become difficult for employees (especially women) to take advantage of double work arrangements and family-friendly policies," said Carlson's Duxbury in her report. As one fine executive said: "They don't want to identify themselves as the next person the company wants to get rid of."

Six years ago, the Bank of Montreal set out to redress the imbalance in its own ranks. With 75 per cent of the bank's employees were women, just nine per cent of women had made it into the executive ranks. Diane Ashton, now the bank's vice-president of employee programs and workplace equality, remembers the day in 1990 when a crowd of BMO employees gathered at Bay Thomson Hall to hear Matthew Barrett, still fresh as the bank's CEO, and Tony Cooper, BMO's president. "Incredibly Barrett saying there was something wrong in the organization and he wanted to get to the bottom of it," says Ashton. The canary announced a task force on the advancement of women. The

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crowd gave them a standing ovation. In November 1991, the task force, led by Coker, submitted its report. The key finding: that women were held back by stereotypical attitudes, myths and "unwritten wisdom." Some of those "wisdoms" were just plain wrong. Fictional women had not been in the pipeline long enough. Fact: women had punched in longer service than men at every level, except when the survey reached senior management, where women simply weren't. Fiction: baby-boom-taking women tend to quit, and ergo, are not committed to their careers. Fact: 50 per cent of women returned to the company after leaving.

The BMO women were well-educated, had received better undergraduate opportunities than men at all levels, and earned career advancement in much faster male peers. Yet they were not making it. There was a perception at the bank that the problem would right itself—the delayed time-frame theory again. Yet in the same period prior to the creation of the task force, the number of senior managers grew by 33 per cent, but the number of women managers grew by just one per cent a year. The task force therefore came to a different conclusion that the bank did not work aggressively to fix the problems. BMO would still have the same executive representation in the year 2000.

That has been the U.S. experience. In 1986, Catalyst found that about five per cent of employees holding titles of vice-president and higher in U.S. corporations were women. Five years later, the U.S. labor department's Glass Ceiling Commission, since disbanded, found that between three per cent and five per cent of such positions were held by women.

Women now hold 24 per cent of all executive positions at BMO. When all this started in 1991, Barrett said he wanted to see 50 per cent of the top offices held by women. The bank has yet to establish a date by which it intends to meet that goal. Ashton says there is an internal "agreement in principle" on this issue that will be made public later in the fall. In there a glass ceiling at TMO? "We shall see that in 1995," says Ashton, who adds that the bank's commitment to breaking down barriers to achievement has been a factor in attracting women to the company.

But the glass ceiling is not one-dimensional. In the summer of 1992, the bank had shaken when its newly promoted vice-president of small business drove her car into a concrete abutment in uptown Toronto. She was just 35, the mother of two small children, and had been vice-president for less than a year. The BMO tragedy brought home to many in the bank the inextricable problems of balancing work and life. In the 1980s, says the Conference Board's MacMillan-King, the workplace question was not even on the corporate agenda but rather was seen as a "woman's issue." That is changing, in part because 61 per cent of the workforce is made up of dual-income earners; in part because aging executive fathers view the career ambitions of their daughters differently than they may have viewed those of their wives, and

in part because not paying attention to such imperatives can prove costly.

In late September, Brenda Barnes, president and CEO of Pepsi-Cola North America, announced that she was simply going home to her three school-age children and away from the demands of PepsiCo. She said she hoped that people would not interpret her departure as confirmation that "women can't do it," but rather that after doing it superbly for more than two decades she reassessed her priorities, and Pepsi was at the top of the list.

What was riveting, and refreshing, about the Barnes resignation

was that she chose not to get a public relations spin on her departure. Barnes's boss, a fellow named Weathering, the CEO of PepsiCo, and that the company "had been grounding her for bigger things," the standard post-retirement blurb.

Unusually, Barnes was not happy with the trade-offs. Her husband, she said, avoided her anger. The fact is that the current definitions of being on top—days that start as the producer, extensive travel, days during Sunday dinner, what Linda Duxbury calls



MacMillan-King: "Is there a critical mass moving in that organizations can draw on? Absolutely."

"polophony" time demands—does not accommodate what most single individuals would describe as a balanced life. Women executives, and Catalyst reports, are "ironically choosing their commitments in order to balance their time—that suggests that lifestyle balance means setting clear priorities, not having it all."

Robert Mitchell, Salancik's colleague at毅, will soon administer a year-long multifaceted initiative called Balancing Work and Family. The project will include both primary research on private- and public-sector employees' attempts to juggle work and family, and a task force of community, business and labor representatives that will travel the province drawing on the views of local residents.

Mitchell sees this work as groundbreaking. And surprisingly, given how long this issue has been talked about, his "We're not going to get anywhere until work and lifestyle becomes a business issue," says Duxbury's Duxbury, who has advised the Saskatchewan government. "Business clearly is not morally...the people have to be treated as business imperatives." Only when, and if, that happens, will the glass ceiling be shattered once and for all.

Ultimately,
the Pepsi executive
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The man behind WorldCom

'If someone was in his way, he would run them over'

In the late 1950s, Bernard (Bernie) Eibens had nothing better than crossing the streets of Edmonton in his nail-clipping. On Saturday nights, he and his friends from Victoria Composite High School would gather at the Kingsway Inn to discuss their favorite topics—girls and sports—over beer. But when Eibens, who now runs one of the world's fastest-growing telecommunications firms, took to the city's playing fields and gymnasiums, friendships instantly vanished. As an athlete, he was so aggressive that his opposition players and even his own teammates usually stayed out of his way. "He was always the dominant male," recalls Terry Fidling, a retired math teacher who used to play baseball with Eibens. "If someone was in his way, he would run them over."

Eibens is a tall, commanding personality—but now his company's interests are turned on the corporate playing fields. On Oct. 3, his London, Miss., based WorldCom Inc. launched the longest-haul, perhaps the most lucrative, corporate telephone network in history. Eibens has afforded \$41 billion for MCI Communications Corp. of New York City—a company four times the size of WorldCom and the second-largest U.S. long-distance company, after AT&T. His bid outperformed an earlier offer from British Telecom PLC, which owns 20 per cent of MCI and was on the verge of completing a \$25-billion takeover of the company when Eibens entered the picture. After a board meeting last week, MCI agreed to consider the offer. Analysts expect British Telecom will increase its holdings in MCI in return for dropping out of the fight. "Communication sense is going to prevail," said telecom analyst at the investment firm RBC Dain Rausch. "Eibens may not get everything he wants, but there will be a negotiated outcome."

Eibens, 56, is an unlikely telecommunications tycoon. The second oldest of three brothers and a sister raised in a modest east Edmonton bungalow, he excelled in several sports but was most passionate about basketball. The turning point came in 1953, when Eibens and a group of investors built a basketball court for his schoolmates with his savings.

"To achieve a degree in commerce from the University of Alberta," As it turned out, a friend's failed romance got him the very David Price, a childhood chum, says that he and Eibens had a friend who wanted to leave Edmton to get away from a former grandfather. All three boys applied to Mississippi College, where Eibens won a basketball scholarship. "He never started much," recalls Price. "He

long-distance market had opened to competition, so he and his partners decided to launch a company that would sell discount long-distance services. Eibens has never looked back. Rather than expanding one customer at a time, he has taken over at least 40 similar operations. Eibens himself owns 1.6 per cent of the company, worth \$944 million.

The MCI takeover will transform WorldCom into more than just the second-largest U.S. long-distance carrier. In addition to its telephone services, MCI operates a vast optical fibre network that handles Internet traffic. Combining that option with its own data networks, WorldCom will control 60 per cent of all U.S. lines handling Internet data. Last year, WorldCom generated \$1.4 billion in revenue from Internet traffic, a sector expected to grow to \$40 billion in the United States by the year 2000.

Yet the MCI bid is still susceptible for shareholders. Eibens has financed his bid to raise \$10 billion with WorldCom shares. To pay for MCI, he would have to prior an additional 600 million shares. David Goodtree, an analyst at BancFirst Research Inc., expects Eibens to recoup some of the cost of the takeover by selling divisions that do not fit his plan. The merged company could also save about \$2.5 billion a year by eliminating duplication and cutting staff. "So far, he has been very adept at managing assets that he wants to keep and discarding the rest," Goodtree says.

Eibens still keeps up close touch with friends and relatives in Edmonton, and an recent business trip gave a group of them a look at his private jet. When not at WorldCom's headquarters near Mississippi College, he can often be found on the beach at his cottage just outside the city, where he fixes deck chairs and takes daffodils. His success doesn't surprise his old friend Peter Eibens, a former deputy premier of Alberta and federal MP. "Bernie is a very dedicated, aggressive individual," said Eibens. The executives at MCI know all about that.

TOM PENNELL



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BUSINESS

A piece of the puzzle

New details come to light in the Bre-X fraud

Michael de Guzman was not at all happy with the first time being used at the Bre-X young gold site in the fall of 1993. It was small and unexcavated, and not up to the task of drilling the so-called central zone. There were breakdowns and numerous delays, frustrating the geologist de Guzman had handpicked to oversee the project. His good friend Cisco Pupo.

In early December, de Guzman himself arrived at Busing during the drilling of the fourth hole, or BRE-4. Life on-site was spartan. The Australian driller hired by Calgary-based Bre-X Minerals Ltd. lost 31 kg in his nine senior assets. "The Indians were coming out with their incense dropping off 'em," he says of a kilo that contained pieces of cracked and tan. The process for Busing looked dismal.

In the first week of December, samples from holes 3 and 4 were sent down the Nahuel River to Kalemantan, Paraguay, together with these. On Dec. 8, these samples were received by India Assay Laboratories in Ballo paraguayo. Pupo sent a fax to India Assay requesting, "Please take note of the following sample numbers," he said, "where possible visible gold was observed visually."

It was an off-the-jetty day that Busing turned dreams into a price. In his memo, Pupo was excited about samples 00264 and 00266 on the fourth hole. Sure enough, holes 3 and 4 had dubious specks of gold. And sure enough, the samples Pupo highlighted were spectacular, showing 16 and 17 g of gold per ton.

Now the truth is out. Not only did these samples mark the beginning of the \$6-billion stock fraud, but the whole scam started off with Pupo as a co-conspirator filing down a piece of gold jewelry. In July of this year, Reinhard von Gruenberg, a geologist with Stratforca Mineral Resources Ltd. in Durango, travelled to Bre-X's warehouse at Kalemantan to witness samples from the early holes. One and two were "junk," according to new tests. But in hole 3, laboratory tests showed that someone had laboriously scraped gold shavings from a piece of jewelry to fill the sample hole. When analyzed, the gold looked like thin curlicues. Hole 4 was rich with the rounded shavings



Pupo with core sample at Busing; skylight of gold jewelry

gold that ran to free in the central zone.

Last week, Bre-X released a summary of a report by Forensic Investigative Associates Inc. Stratforca's work was its cornerstone, confirming that the gold found at the center started almost at the inception of the Busing project, back when Bre-X was nothing more than a stock promoter's idea.

While Stratforca confirmed the timing of the fraud, Bre-X says at its work, including more than 500 coreholes, proves the conspiracy was spearheaded by de Guzman, chief geologist with Bre-X, and Pupo, and then extended to more junior Bre-X employees, including Pupo's brother, Mayko. That it was never a one-man crime came as no surprise. Pupo controlled the flow of samples from Busing to India Assay, and

Papas answered to de Guzman. Pilo, which will be taking Bre-X in excess of \$2 million for its work, says it found no evidence that Bre-X chairman David Walsh was either involved in or had knowledge of any of the illegal activities. A list of Bre-X insiders and independent contractors were similarly exonerated. The participants of Bre-X geologist John Felderholz, and Pilo, "is still an open question."

Torn Apart, the Houston lawyer who has spent months in Indonesia gathering information to support a malfeasance class-action lawsuit against Bre-X, says the PIA summary shows not only that Bre-X was involved in criminal conduct, "but that it was a criminal business from the beginning."

The true value of the 428-page report will not be known until it is released in its entirety. That Bre-X is not done yet is especially disappointing for Joe Grata, the Toronto lawyer who represents Felderholz. "We don't consider them to be an open question about John's involvement," he said of his client. "PIA wants to know the answer to, Was John involved? All they have to do is call me up. I'd be glad to tell them he wasn't."

Felderholz did not re-operate with PIA. The "open question" simply arises from John's refusal to co-operate," says Grata, who adds that his client would not participate because of Bre-X's refusal to supply him with the completed report, and "because we had some concerns about had they had conducted themselves in their investigations."

PIA does not say how it concluded that de Guzman's fall from helicopeter in March was a suicide, and that the body recovered from the jungle was his. "We believe he killed himself while faced with the prospect of having to be exposed for selling Bre-X samples," said the investigator. One of de Guzman's sisters in Manila says she has not decided whether to pursue DNA tests of human samples.

Last week, the fallen gold-exploration company delivered the PIA report to the RCMP's Bre-X task force, which promptly handed it over unopened, to Alberta's attorney general. Said RCMP spokeswoman Debra Schell: "We wanted to ensure our investigation maintained its integrity." For the RCMP, the Bre-X scandal is still an open file.

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Ross Laver

Personal Business

A foot on the brake

Like as Gordon Thissen must know, just isn't far. More than anyone else, the Bank of Canada governor is responsible for the economic growth surge that began to take hold across the country last winter. After all, it was Thissen and his colleagues at the central bank who waged war on inflation and then, when victory was at hand, cut interest rates 20 basis to two to spur consumer spending.

But while Thissen has only ever received grudging credit for the current strong economy, he is now drawing heavy fire for raising short-term rates sharply

to keep the economy from overheating. "The Bank of Canada continues to believe that the economy can do no better than an eight-per-cent unemployment rate without jeopardizing price stability," Jeff Rubin, chief economist for CIBC Wood Gundy Securities, wrote last month. Economic Policy Council of Scotiabank Investment Counsel, meanwhile, warns that the residual interest in economic demand is still "quite fragile" and could be snuffed out if the central bank's decision to tighten monetary policy prompts Canadians to "pull in their horns and not spend."

Well, yes, but that's a very big if. In the most recent mid-quarter forecast, the suggestion that a half-point rise in the bank rate—to 3.75 per cent now, from a 34-year low of 3.25 per cent last spring—poses a threat to the economy's growth a lot of a stretch. Despite all the hand-wringing in recent years about the supposed death of the consumer, retail sales are stronger than at any time this decade. Demand for housing and cars is up, as personal incomes are rising and reasonable growth for the year appears likely to approach five per cent, the highest in the Group of Seven.

Thissen's goal is not to smother the expansion but to prevent it by making sure that rising consumption does not touch off an upward spiral in wages and prices. The inflation rates will soon be rising south of the border; as they did last week in France, Germany, Austria, Belgium, Denmark and the Netherlands because of concern over inflation pressures.

All of this might sound ominous for borrowers, but take a closer look at the bond market. Long-term Canadian interest rates have actually drifted down recently, which is why five-year mortgages have dropped twice in the past month to their lowest level in 30 years. By raising short-term rates alone, Thissen has succeeded in restraining the markets that he will not allow inflation to return. This, in turn, convinces investors to accept lower yields over the long haul—the strongest policy enforcement a central banker can hope for.

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Harris fuels a gas-price debate

A PACKAGE DEAL

Quebec-based Forest products giants Domtar Inc. and Cascades Inc. plan to merge their cardboard-taxi operations in a yet-to-be-named company with assets worth about \$1 billion. The new firm would be the country's largest producer of cardboard, controlling more than a third of the domestic market.

BRICKLIN UNPLUGGED

Melvin Brinklin, inventor of the Bricklin car in the 1970s, has sold off another venture. The Electric Bicycle Co., a firm he founded to sell \$2,200 electric bikes, went bankrupt, costing investors millions of dollars. Brinklin had promoted the EV Waver bike as the commuter vehicle of the future. The New Brunswick government lost \$2 million when Brinklin's fledgling sports car flipped in 1979.

QUEBECOR EYES BREAKUP

Quebecor Inc. and its many spin-off printing, publishing and forest products holdings may three publicly traded companies. Such a move would likely boost shares in the Montreal-based conglomerate, controlled by 72-year-old founder Pierre Prud'homme.

CHRYSLER FOUND LIABILE

Alta. gas cylinder Chrysler Corp. to pay \$300 million to the parents of a six-year-old boy who was thrown from a Dodge minivan with a defective rear door latch and killed in a traffic accident in 1984. The jury ruled that Chrysler neglected to properly design and test the minivan. Last February, a jury in New Mexico found that Chrysler was not liable for a woman's death in a minivan crash, despite the faulty latches.

INTERNET BREAKTHROUGH

Northern Telecom Ltd. and British United PLC announced technology making it possible to offer Internet and phone service over household electrical wires. Analysts say the development could lead to an explosion in Internet use. The firms say the technology is ready for use in Europe and Asia but must be fine-tuned for North America.

LUMBER LETDOWN

A 20-per-cent plunge in lumber prices forced shutdowns at some British Columbia sawmills. Industry officials say a poor housing market in Japan is partly to blame. Producers are also facing increased U.S. competition.

Ontario Premier Mike Harris has vowed to stop what he called price-gouging by service stations, saying the province will act alone if Ottawa fails to respond. Reacting to a wave of gasoline price increases in advance of the Thanksgiving holiday weekend, Harris said he believes gas retailers are acting in collusion. "I we can't see action at a national level, then we are prepared to look at any option, probably that we can take." But a new study commissioned by the federal departments of industry and natural resources said that there was no evidence of a conspiracy to fix prices, and that the Toronto area, in fact, has the most competitive gasoline market in Canada. Service stations hardly make cents out of the pump in all other markets, the study reported.

Harris emphasized that the government has an obligation of regulating retailers. "What it basically means is to regulate them all consistently higher," he said. The ancient free-enterprise failed to specify exactly what action the province will take, saying there is no easy answer. "It requires more investigation, if it requires legislation, we're prepared to look at it." Meanwhile, Harris urged motorists to buy gas service stations that suddenly jack up their prices.



At the pump: a crackdown on price-gouging?

In 1996, the average CEO received a bonus totaling 71 per cent of salary, up from 65 per cent in 1995, the Ernst & Young report found. Chief executives in financial services sector enjoyed the biggest bonuses, an average of 123 per cent of salary. CEOs who cashed in stock options last year earned an average of \$633,700, compared with \$288,000 the year before. The report attributed the improved pay to a booming stock market and strong corporate results.

A very good year

Chief executive officers of most of Canada's largest corporations saw their salaries increase by an average of 14 per cent last year, according to a study by accounting firm Ernst & Young. However, 22 per cent of CEOs with companies in the Toronto Stock Exchange 300 index received no raise. US research study by rival KPMG found that Canadian workers received an average 29-per-cent pay hike last year.

FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

Canadian bankers throughout Western Europe and North America are racing to meet inflation by tightening the monetary reins. Bank of Canada governor Gordon Thiessen, who raised interest rates 1 quarter of a percentage point earlier this month, cautioned that inflation-resistant measures could occur in the coming months. A similar warning by US Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan pushed stock prices lower.

The interbank rate in September increased 0.15 per cent, defying economists who had predicted strong employment gains. Housing starts were also weaker than expected.

"Despite the apparent pause in overall employment in September, 1997 job gains in the first half of next February, 1998. Most provinces experienced increases except British Columbia, which was unchanged, and Quebec, which declined."

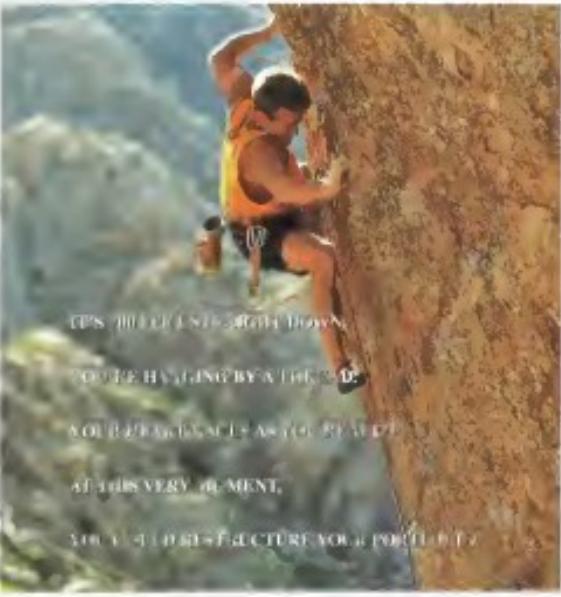
"The hard-won market rebounded in September by 1.8 per cent to the highest level since February, 1991. Most provinces recorded increases except British Columbia, which was unchanged, and Quebec, which declined."

—Norbert Burns



"With total consumer debt exceeding 90 per cent of disposable income, rising interest rates will make personal debt-service costs more onerous."

—Conference Board of Canada



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Peter C. Newman

A big bank CEO who does not fit the mould

Right on schedule, Charles Baillie, the freshly minted president and CEO of the Toronto Dominion Bank, bought another discount brokerage house two weeks ago, his bank's third such purchase in recent months. This time, he acquired Kennedy Collet, a highly profitable, 14-banchise Beverly Hills, Calif., broker, for \$234 million.

With this takeover, the TD's brokerage business, now exceeding \$1 billion every two days, ranks as Australia's and Canada's biggest, and the world's third largest—just behind Charles Schwab and Fidelity Investment Management in the United States.

"We intend to be the leading global factor in the brokerage business," Baillie told *globe* in a recent interview. "It's a high-return-on-equity business, about the best profit you can earn in the 30 categories in which we operate. Each account is worth an average of \$1,000 to us, and we already have more than 1.7 million accounts."

Baillie, who took over the TD from Dick Thorsen last November, doesn't fit the traditional mould of Canadian bank heads even if one does witness a Toronto lightening bolt for the sake of a tennis court. With 21 windows down, he tops the country's any excuse off-the-beaten-path list. "It's not my fault," he explains. "This office is really a pleasure because it was built by the great American architect who designed our head office building 20 years ago. I passed this space before I became president, and I planned to have the Bowens have to be placed in a certain way."

You sense that Baillie is uncoordinated here, not because of his job, but because of the entrepreneurial spirit he has encouraged. It's only a slight exaggeration to report that when he got up to speak at a conference table where we were talking and went back to his desk to fetch a piece of paper, he seemed so awfully lost that I felt he was disappearing behind the chair's contours.

An CEO of the smallest of the Big Five banks (the TD has assets of \$1.2 billion, compared with the Royal's \$234 billion), Baillie can't afford to be absent-minded with his own bank. So he has a nicely honest sense of the absurd about it all. On the morning I dropped in to visit, he took great delight in telling about a consultant who was making the rounds of Canadian bankers some years ago. Spouting a course by the Quebec artist Rropic outside what is now Baillie's office, the consultant exulted: "So that's the one? When I was at the Commerce just now, they were boasting that their Rropic was bigger than yours!"

In keeping with his own sense of modest priorities, Baillie has sold TD's corporate jet and continues to occupy the family home he has lived in for 12 years. "My wife owns our house," he says. (Marilyn Baillie is a niece of former governor general

Roland Michener, and writes best-selling children's books.)

Not since Alain Taylor headed the Royal has a major Canadian banker spoken out so bluntly on national issues. As the head of an essential Canadian institution, Baillie feels compelled to jump into the arena at a time when the future of his country is threatened. "Banning divorce intervention, blind trust, or holding new leadership," he maintains, "the next Quebec referendum may well be won. We can't any longer take refuge in the splendor of the block as a reason to continue to believe Quebec can stay. We must find a way to grant them the respect they deserve."

Unlike most bankers, Baillie does not regard a balanced budget as the most important of human priorities. "Deficit elimination is not a vision," he relays. "Debt reduction is not a rallying cry for the nation."

"What is required today more than anything is to rekindle a sense of national pride, of common Canadian purpose. We need to reinforce who we are and why we are. We need to articulate the Canadian ideal—not simply to tolerate one another, but to take pride in helping each other be what we want to become."

What makes Baillie so different and so interesting is the depth of curiosity revealed by his highly unorthodox hobbies. He recently acquired a copy of *encyclopedia of Punch*, the British humor magazine, since it was first published in 1841. He loves reading history books and considers the way events were reported in the magazines of the serial period. "I'll be reading about, say, the great mutiny in India, and I can look up the stories and cartoons in *Punch* for 1857 at the same time," he says with obvious relish.

The local of *Shaw* Baillie takes also indicates an interesting turn of mind. Together with his wife and their grown children, he enjoys bird-watching expeditions. These entail hours-long country walks. They mostly come back from birding through the jungles of Barbados and Zimbabwe. "I saw 192 varieties of birds in two weeks!" boasts Baillie. The family has also gone to Papua New Guinea and, when the TD recently opened its office in Chile, Baillie stuck in an extra day to go bird-watching in the Andes.

None of this has anything to do with banking, but neither should it be ignored in judging Baillie's mentality and future prospects. When he joined the TD 20 years ago as a credit officer, it was a narrow business, mostly making loans and taking in deposits. Now, the bank is more of a one-stop financial shopping centre, facing intense global and domestic competition.

The men who run the Big Five banks must be statesmen as well as master craftsmen. The fight to preserve Canada is much too important to be left to the politicians. We need one Charlie Baillies.

An avid bird-watcher, the TD's Charles Baillie feels a balanced budget is not the most essential of human priorities



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SHAW

People

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On the case with Greene



The actor: Now simple scenes of Greene could start any

For a self-proclaimed "science nut," hosting *Smith & Steyer's Forensic Science* is the ideal job, says Canadian actor **Graham Greene**. "I'm always watching science shows, and I thought that sounded interesting," he says. "So I decided to take a stab at it, so to speak."

The 13-part Discovery Channel program, which is based on actual Canadian criminal cases, uses dramatic re-enactment to show how forensic scientists and police investigators use technology to crack virtually unsolvable cases. In one episode, forensic and chemistry experts determine that a missing lottery ticket had been carefully doctored. Another focuses on the young female AIDS patient who matched DNA from three female AIDS victims to the man they claim infected them. "What gets me about these cases is how stupid some of these criminals are," says Greene. "They are like the Three Stooges. It's like, 'What were they thinking? They left their evidence behind!'"

It has not been his first foray into TV series. A full-blood Ojibwe born near the Six Nations reserve near Brantford, Ont., he had a variety of occupations, from entrepreneur to rock band member, before embarking on a career in the arts in 1976. The actor became known to international audiences for his Academy Award-nominated role in *Raiders of the Lost Ark* and *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom*. Greene has also worked regularly in television, including in the CBC series *North of 60*, but says he prefers film. The longest shooting period, he notes, leaves time to play jokes on co-workers. "If you don't have fun, what's the point of working?" The film *Face/Off* dissolved in March, when Greene underwent plastic surgery treatment after surviving an assault in the house he shares with his wife, Hilary Blackmore, in Uxbridge, Ont., north of Toronto. Police were called in, but no one was hurt. "That is why in the past now," says Greene, who would rather talk about his work, though not what he's currently up. "I don't like discussing my future plans. It's like whistling in the darkness, it's bad luck."

The shoot must go on

Christian DeGagné is a director with a difference: his career as a cameraman and still does his two careers work. "I think I'd go crazy to have to concentrate on a technician when I shoot," says the 35-year-old Canadian whose credits include the 1995 soft thriller *Sessions*. But his technical edge did not make things any easier when he was filming *The Assignment*, a suspense thriller about the terrorist *Castro*. (The Jack

all Sanchez The movie, which opened on Sept. 26, was shot in Montreal, Budapest and throughout Israel, in weather ranging from 40 to 69° C. After a series of intense sets in Israel in March, 1996, the director temporarily stopped production. But it was only in retrospect, says DeGagné, who recently directed *Castro* between Montreal and Los Angeles with star **Edith Bouvier**, and their two young children, that he appreciated how difficult a shoot it was. "At the time you're so focused on what you're doing," he notes, "you sort of lose track."

Havana, and all that jazz

Cuban musicians were once very influential in jazz. No today, after more than 20 years of the US embargo against that country, most Cuban performers are unknown in North America. Writer and pianist **Marilyn Lerner** is hoping to change that. In January, she went to Havana to record her latest album, *Friends Are Reunited*. "The relationship was starting," says the classically trained pianist who worked with several of Cuba's top greats to create the album's Afro-Cuban-flavored songs. Lerner, 40, whose piece *globo* is now touring Canada, adds that playing in Cuba was inspiring. "Music is simply part of the culture," she says. "Coming from this culture, you just stuck it up."



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Education NOTES

Basic alterations

Last month, Ontario launched a new curriculum requiring students to master a broad range of reading, writing and math skills in a faster pace. Among other things, children will be expected to read independently, and to write complete sentences using basic punctuation, by the end of Grade 1—two years earlier than before. Now Quebec Education Minister Pauline Marois has followed suit with the Program of Change in Quebec Schools, to be introduced in the fall of 1999 and completely integrated into all curricula by 2005. The changes follow three years of studies and official recommendations. Under the new guidelines, all children will take an extra two hours of language classes each week in their mother tongue, and francophone students will begin studying English as a second language one year earlier, in Grade 3. Also in Grade 3, new emphasis will be put on teaching history. By Grade 7, more class time will be devoted to technology-related courses. And beginning in Grade 9, more time will be set aside for studying mathematics—one hour a week compared with the current allocation of less than 30 minutes. Marois has also announced which subjects will be dropped to make room for the changes. Topping the list: home economics, and so-called personal and social development courses, which focus on everything from hygiene to family relationships, and which will be folded into moral and religious education, and physical education courses.



Marois with schoolchildren in Quebec City: a shift in focus

Engineering conflict

Standards is normally the concern of English departments. But at Memorial University of Newfoundland, scientists are fighting a pitched battle over a single word. The dispute began one year ago when Memorial's science gave the computer science department the go-ahead to offer a bachelor of science in software engineering, whose first classes were last month. Interested, several members of the engineering faculty took their concerns over "their colleagues' use of word 'engineering'" to the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Newfoundland and the Canadian Council of Professional Engineers. The latter organization owns the trademark to the word in Canada. The two associations have filed a joint lawsuit in federal court against Memorial, claiming the university has violated trademark regulations. "These days, software is used in everything from medical equipment to cars," says APEGN president Geoff Embrey. "The issue is whether work will be done by properly qualified engineers." Officials at Memorial have placed a red dot in the current course calendar emphasizing that the program is not part of the engineering faculty. But they are refusing to change the name. The war over the word is set to go to trial sometime in the next few months.

A public loan for a private partner

When it opened last January, Sherwood Park Education Centre in Sylvan, N.B., was looked as a shining example of how the private sector could benefit public education. The junior-high, with 675 students, was the first in the province to be launched under ministry guidelines, introduced in 1995, that require all schools to be built and operated by private contractors. Once up and running, the schools are to be leased back from the private sector by local boards, which retain control over curriculum, standards and staffing. But from the start, the group of construction and technology firms that built Sherwood Park had trouble arranging their financing. In fact, it turns out that the province was forced to loan the company \$1.6 million to build the school. "In an ideal world, no, it wasn't supposed to work this way," says Doug Nass, executive director of finance and operations for the Nova Scotia department of education. Nass notes that both sides had underestimated the difficulty and complexity of financing such an ambitious venture, but that the consortium is now on the verge of repaying its debt to the government. "We have plans in the works to build eight similar schools," adds Nass. "But before we begin those, you can bet we will make sure financing is firmly in place."

Business lessons for the global market

For two of Canada's leading business schools, the global economy is about to expand the global campus. Starting in 1998, Montreal's McGill University and the University of Western Ontario in London will begin offering masters of business administration degrees to executives in Asia, using a combination of regular faculty and local instructors. McGill's MBA program will begin July 1 at Sophia University in Tokyo. Western's is set to start in August at a renovated facility in the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. And like similar Canadian-based degree, both will come with a hefty price tag of more than \$20,000 for each of the two years. Still, officials at both universities expect no shortage of applicants. More than 500 people have already inquired about the McGill program, which will accept about 45 students to start. "There are very low alternatives in Asia," says associate dean of master's programs David Saunders. "And there are even fewer English ones." Sophia University is a for-profit institution.

Crosbie's Canada

Crosbie in the Commons in 1993.
"I'm a cynic" option
for Atlantic Canada



*During his 17 years on the federal political scene, John Crosbie made a name as a witty, blustery and frequently controversial voice of the Conservative party. Holder of a succession of portfolios in the Clark and Mulroney governments, Crosbie retired from politics before the 1993 election that devastated the Tories. In his new memoir, *No Holds Barred: My Life in Politics*, written with Montreal's Managing Editor Geoffrey Stevens, the Newfoundland lawyer displays his trademark disdain for political correctness. Also clear is his commitment to a united Canada, which Crosbie expresses in the following interview.*

Separation is not an issue for Quebecers alone to decide. All Canadians have a direct and immediate interest in what happens in Quebec. We all have a right to try to influence the debate and the outcome of any future referendum. This right of intervention applies particularly to the people of Atlantic Canada, whose four provinces depend so heavily on the government of Canada for fiscal transfers to their governments and for direct support to individuals through the Employment Insurance system, Canada Assistance Plan, Canada Pension Plan, Old Age Security, Guaranteed Income Supplement and many other federal programs. Of the four Atlantic provinces, Newfoundland is the most dependent. In 1990, Ottawa collected \$1.3 billion in federal revenue from Newfoundland and Labrador, and it spent \$4.49 billion by way of transfers to the provincial government and the people of the province.

To look at it another way, the federal government raises one per cent of its revenue from the 30th province, yet does three per cent of its spending there. Every resident of Atlantic Canada has a direct, immediate and vital interest in what happens in Quebec, because I don't believe that Canadian federalism will survive if Quebec leaves. And if federalism collapses, Atlantic Canada will be the first victim.

In Newfoundland and, it appears, the rest of the Atlantic region, most people are living in a *feudal* paradise. They believe that, if Quebec leaves Confederation, nothing much will change, except that they will no longer have to bother with interprovincial or worry about the French minority in Canada. That endures the lazy assumption that the nine remaining provinces will carry on without Quebec. They assume that all social programs, all transfer programs from the central government to the provinces, such as equalization, the cost of postsecondary education, and the health system, will continue in place.

It's time for a reality check. It's time for everyone living in the Atlantic provinces to address the threat posed by the possible separation of Quebec. It's time that the Atlantic Canadians started to consider seriously the five options that face us:

- to continue as part of the present Canada;
- to become part of Canada without Quebec;
- to become part of a new Atlantic country composed of the four Atlantic provinces;

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- to become independent countries again, as Newfoundland was until 1949;
- or to become states of the United States of America.

If we cannot conclude as part of a united Canada, the options are catastrophic for the ordinary person in Atlantic Canada. Despite this self-evident fact, the issue is not even discussed. Our heads are buried in the sand.

Two provinces are essential to the continuation of Canada as a nation—the two original provinces of Upper Canada and Lower Canada. If either leaves, Canada comes to exist on a nation. It is most unlikely that Canada would survive a "successful" independence referendum in Quebec because it would not be in the fiscal interests of those living in Ontario, British Columbia or Alberta to carry on as though nothing had happened.

Even if we could divide a country out of the nine remaining units, the fiscal arrangements of this new federation would be completely different. The very generous transfers from the central government that provide the glue that holds Canada together would almost certainly not be replicated in a new, reduced nation. Atlantic Canadians forget at their peril that Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia would each be economically stable as an independent country and would each have the option of going it alone. We have no reason to expect that they would join a new federation that would continue to dispense charity in Atlantic Canada. If transfer and other support programs did continue, they would assuredly not be as generous as they are today. The less Atlantic Canada could expect would be nothing at all.

It is unlikely, I believe, that the four Atlantic provinces would ever come together to form a new nation. Such a combination would not produce an economically viable entity, or a standard of living that would be remotely comparable to what our people have today. It's also a fact that Newfoundlanders have never shown much empathy with the Maritime provinces or wanted to have much to do with them. Newfoundland and the Maritime provinces could become independent countries or the three Maritime provinces might form one nation, with Newfoundland becoming independent again. If this occurs, life will certainly be much more difficult and seductive for our citizens.

The last option would be for Atlantic Canada as a region, or the four provinces individually, to join the United States, if that country were agreeable—which is by no means a sure thing. It is not a tempting prospect for Atlantic Canadians. Individual states don't get the kind of financial assistance from their central government

Most people assume the nine provinces would carry on without Quebec. It's time for a reality check. ■

'One of the big problems in Canada is excessive regionalism'

that the poor provinces of Canada receive. There are no large transfer programs from Washington to the states. There is an equalization fund. And U.S. programs for unemployment insurance, health care and social assistance do not apply to Canadian programs in their breadth or their generosity.

Closely, the continuation of the present Canada is definitely preferable to any of the alternatives for all the people of Middle Canada—unless it means asking significant constitutional concessions to Quebec to ensure that the federation survives. This must be the guiding principle for our elected representatives in the Atlantic region. The Constitution of Canada must serve the needs of the whole country, each of its provinces and territories, and all of its citizens. The Constitution is not the servant of any particular view of constitutional principle or practice. The object of the Constitution is to keep the whole country together and to make it possible for Canadians to satisfy the needs of all our people.

The people of Canada outside Quebec have a perfect right to insist that our political leaders make several things clear to Quebecers before another referendum is held:

- * There must be a clear question that is comprehensible to the ordinary voter.

- * We are not going to permit repeated votes on this question over an indefinite period.

- * If there is to be a referendum, the voting will be determined by all of us, not just by the government of Quebec.

- * We have to agree on the percentage of the vote the Yes side must obtain for the vote to be decisive.

- * Quebec cannot assume that the boundaries of an independent Quebec would be the same as they are today, because the present boundaries were substantially increased in the early 1980s.

- * It must be clearly spelled out what arrangements the rest of Canada will conclude with respect to currency, passports and citizenship, the use of our central bank, and other such issues.

- * Above all, we must disabuse everyone of the quaint notion that Quebec can leave Canada with little disruption, with Quebecers and Canadians exchanging pleasantries and treating one another in a friendly and friendly manner. This will not happen. Any breakup will inevitably produce tensions, conflict and strife—the survival of the fittest, not the nicest. Canadians have to reach a stalemate in Quebec's decision as Quebecers do, and we will act accordingly.

My experience in the provincial and federal spheres has convinced me that the federal system of government, where jurisdiction and authority are divided between a national government and the governments and legislatures of provinces or states, is by far the best system for very large countries such as Canada, Australia and the United States. Federalism has the benefit of flexibility. In every federal state, the jurisdictions of power are set in

wings from the federal government to the provinces, and back again, as conditions change or as society becomes more cosmopolitan. In Canada in the 1950s and 1960s, authority seemed to swing to the federal government, while in the 1970s and 1980s the provinces acquired more power.

One of the big problems in Canada today is excessive regionalism. Federal leaders are forever attempting to avoid decisions that can be headed in one part of the country in favoring some other part of the country. This phenomenon is peculiar to Canada. In my extensive travels in the United States, I have never seen a person in one region, say, New England, criticize any action the government is taking. Washington might have taken to support an activity in the South or in California or in some other part of the country. Regional rivalries in the United States are muted compared with the constant shouting in Canada over Ottawa's perceived favoritism towards one region at the expense of others. This alleged discrimination becomes a fodder for sympathetic editorial indignation, open-line systems and off-the-cuff outrage in the grubbing media.

For a dramatic illustration of the dangers of excessive regionalism, I look to the election of the Mulroney cabinet to award a \$1.5-billion research contract for the CF-18 fighter aircraft to Montreal's Canadair, owned by Bechtelovitch, rather than to British Aerospace in Waddington. What particularly outraged the West was the fact that the civil servants who evaluated the bid had rated the one offered by British Aerospace as being significantly cheaper and technologically superior to Canadair's. The political cost to the federal Tories was huge as outrage over the CF-18 contract fuelled the formation of the Reform party and contributed to the election of many Western Conservative supporters in the West. It made no difference when a \$200-million surveillance contract for the CF-18 fighter aircraft and a \$50-million disease-control laboratory were awarded to Waddington. These滔s of patronage were seen as being poor compensation for the loss of the much larger CF-18 contract. The Mulroney government stood indicted and convicted of favoritism to Quebec. The episode remained one of an observation that Senator John Maths made about the Irish. The Irish, he said, "are fair people, they never speak well of one another." Or as George Bernard Shaw said, "Put an Irishman on the spit and you can always get another Irishman to turn him."

"They could have been denouncing Canadians

It is becoming increasingly difficult to attract to the political profession men and women of shifty and ideals who have an interest in public policy and public life. There are many reasons for this, one being the jaded view that the public takes of



Greider with Mulroney: 'I deeply regret that I cannot encourage my cabinet to turn aside'

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Winnipeg to host the largest multi-sport event ever held in Canada

The countdown has begun for the XIII Pan American Games to be held in Winnipeg July 24-August 8, 1999. One of only two cities that has hosted the Games twice, Winnipeg first hosted the event in 1967. At the first Pan American Games held in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 1951, 2,580 athletes represented 22 countries. At the Winnipeg Games, those numbers have since doubled, with 42 countries sending 5,000 athletes.

The 1967 Pan American Games were a major milestone for the City of Winnipeg and left a legacy of tradition, pride and volunteerism which can still be seen today. By the time the Games are over, more than 10,000 volunteers will have been involved. The task of ensuring that the right people are in the right place at the right time has already begun.

Whispering in the wind about the possibility of holding another major event in Winnipeg, the city again looked to the Americas.

In 1991, on the heels of a very successful 1990 Western Canada Summer Games, the city approached Doug MacKenzie, current CEO and President of the Pan Am Games Society, Winnipeg 1999, and Barbara Hock, the former Vice President of the Pan Am Games Society, to co-chair a bid process. With the assistance of a dedicated Board of Directors, an incomparable committee which represented a broad cross-section of the Winnipeg business, sports and cultural community, and support from the

city and province, the Winnipeg Bid Committee went to work.

In late July 1994, the Manitoba delegation landed in Guyana, Ecuador, the site of the final selection process. After a tie-breaking third ballot, Winnipeg won the bid by 26 votes to 22.

The Pan Am Games Society is now headquartered in a historic building in the southwestern part of Winnipeg working towards the July 24, 1999 start of the Games.

The Games will be hosted by Winnipeg in partnership with the three levels of government and the corporate community, under the auspices of the Canadian Olympic Association.

Whispering in the wind about the prospect of the Games, will ring some events in other Manitoba cities and towns such as Parry Sound, Gimli, Brandon, Steinbach, La Ronge and in the Brandon area.

These Games will be the largest celebration of sport and culture ever staged in Canada, bigger than the 1976 Olympics in Montreal and the 1988 Winter Olympics in Calgary. They will be the third-largest multi-sport event in North America behind only the 1996 Atlanta Games and 1984 Los Angeles Olympics.

The 5,000 athletes along with 2,000 coaches, trainers and

mission staff from 42 countries of North, South, Central America and the Caribbean will participate in 41 sport disciplines. The Games plans include construction of two new facilities—a new generation in the University of Manitoba, a baseball park, and upgrades to other facilities such as the Pan Am Pool built for the 1967 Games.

Volunteering for Success

Winnipeg was the right to host the 1999 Pan American Games in large part because the Pan American nations remembered the down and many of the many volunteers who made the 1967 Pan Am Games such an enormous success.

Over 1,200 volunteers are already on the job preparing to welcome athletes and visitors. By the time the Games are over, more than 15,000 volunteers will have been involved. The task of ensuring that the right people are in the right place at the right time has already begun.

Best TV Coverage Ever

A unique broadcasting arrangement will be the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) and Neftel Communications (TSN/RDS) providing joint Canadian coverage of the '99 Games. As host broadcaster, CBC will provide the picture and international sound for all rights held. CBC will air approximately 45 hours of prime time coverage, including the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, broadcasting two hours per day in the full English language network, and an additional hour locally every

night during the Games or CBC Marathons and on Northwest Ontario repeater stations. Neftel Communications are committed for 65 hours of additional coverage during the day on both TSN and their French language counterpart, RDS.

A contract with OTT, the influential Mexico City-based network and with CBC (Canadian Broadcasting Union) ensures the Games will be seen through all Central and South American and the Caribbean. Broadcasting rights for the United States are currently being negotiated. From coast to coast in Canada to the tourist mecca up South America, from the first whistle to the final gun, the '99 Games will be the best covered Pan Am Games in the history of the event.

Economic Wins for Winnipeg

The '99 Games will have a significant impact on the economy of the region with estimated five billion Canadian dollars expenditure in Canada of \$12.8 million will cover an additional \$226 million in spin-off expenditures. The total expenditure in Manitoba is estimated at \$367 million as a result of the ripple effect caused by the direct Pan Am Games and visitor expenditures. Total employment associated with the Games is projected to be 3,732 personnel. It is also estimated that approximately 110,000 visitors will spend over \$38 million during the Games.

As well, the community will benefit from the legacy left after the Games with new and renovated sports facilities, tourism infrastructure development, a reinvigorated community and expanded international exposure.

If you come from anywhere in the Americas, there's one way to get to the Sydney Olympics in the year 2000. And that's through Winnipeg.

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their political leaders, holding them to blame for all of the fiscal and other difficulties that governments face today. The practice of politics has grown more difficult and unpredictable over the past 20 years as the political system has grown more complicated and democratic, and in the media, especially television, have become more intrusive.

Anyone who seeks a seat in Parliament does so at considerable risk—the greatest being the risk of actually getting elected. Those agreeing to political life must leave those professors or business during their best and most productive years to become full-time politicians, a career that is fraught with uncertainty. They may be defeated whenever an election is called, or even be challenged for renomination within their own party.

Once elected to the Commons, fledgling politicians require reasonable remuneration, but they soon discover that their living expenses have increased because they need to maintain residences in their riding and in Ottawa. An MP's life requires constant travel between Ottawa and home, and to political events in other parts of the country. There will be many frustrations for him or her if much of the work in Ottawa is not meaningful, and an ordinary MP is often unable to exercise any real influence.

After six years in the Commons, MPs are eligible for a modest pension. But only if they manage to get re-elected often enough to put in 18 or 19 years of service can they expect a reasonable, but not extravagant, pension. By then, of course, they will have no career to return to in the private world, having been too long

away from their business or profession. They will also find that the fact he or she has a position will weigh against them, because, in today's atmosphere, people are looked down upon for having been in politics.

Most of today's politicians could make more money, enjoy better job conditions, and have better prospects for the future if they had never gone into public life. Anyone entering politics should suffer the very pain of very rich. Only people with the "cure" out of both parties or who are independently wealthy can seriously risk becoming politicians. After a life in politics, I deeply regret that I cannot encourage my own children to leave their careers to focus on the challenges of elected office. They would be risking their own future and the security of their spouses and children.

In politics, never underestimate the importance of being number 1. Towards the end of 1995, I had a chat with Brian Tobin, then Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's minister of fisheries and oceans, as he contemplated returning to Newfoundland to run for the Liberal leadership to succeed Stéphane Dion as leader and premier. I encouraged him to do it, but I also told him he would be better off, far more satisfied and in a better position personally if he were number 1 in the smaller province of Newfoundland than he would be even if he were number 8 or 9 in the Chrétien administration in Ottawa.

It is infinitely frustrating to work as a member of a government led by someone else. No matter how much power and authority lead-

Observations on the media

Often subjected to intense criticism as of late, John Crosbie offers journalists his thoughts about "their grubby little craft."

Left with the question of bias, the practice of journalism has altered significantly since I began my political journey in the 1960s. Prior to then, journalists were expected to be neutral in their treatment of public figures and public issues. Editors wanted their reporters keep their personal and political opinions out of their stories. There was no quicker way for a political reporter to find himself back on the police beat than to start writing commentary with hindsight. The right or power to express opinions was reserved for columnists and editorial writers, and their columns and editorials were clearly labelled as such. It was sort of like the health labels on today's cigarette packages—you could read that stuff at your peril.

Times have changed, for the worse. A casual examination of any newspaper today will reveal stories that claim to report on events, but that are actually reports with the biases and opinions of the reporter. Stories dominated by The Canadian Press, the national news-gathering collective, are filled these days with descriptive words and phrases that clearly indicate what the writer thinks about the events, views or people he

or she is describing—and what he or she thinks any right-minded person should think about them.

If someone in the news examines issues from a conservative point of view, that individual is almost invariably identified in journalists' stories as "right-wing." The Fraser Institute of Vancouver is invariably described in news reports as "the right-wing Fraser Institute" whenever they issue a report or analysis. Yet organizations or individuals expressing views contrary to the Fraser Institute's are never described as being "left-wing."

In the years since I entered public life, journalists have come to see themselves as advocates or as advocates in relation to

established institutions, particularly the institutions of government. With some of the younger journalists, respectively, it no longer an ideal to pursue, but rather a form of op-probrium.

It is instructive to compare the national media treatment of the Mulroney Conservative administration with their treatment of the Chrétien Liberal administration. The ferocity of the attacks by journalists on possible mistakes made by the Mulroney government turned into the memory of everyone who was active in federal politics in the 1980s and 1990s. The media were in full mode throughout the Mulroney years, while Chrétien came to office, they turned into poodles.



'There were no kickbacks'

John Crosbie points the finger of blame for the so-called Airbus scandal that prompted Brian Mulroney to sue the federal government, ultimately settling for more than \$2 million to cover his legal and public relations costs.

The 16-page letter that was sent from the department of justice in Ottawa to the government of Saskatchewan in September, 1995, was one of the most sensational documents in Canadian political or diplomatic history. Requesting assistance in certain police inquiries, the letter alleged that the former prime minister of Canada, Brian Mulroney, had been involved in a "concerning conspiracy" in the

money he anyone else in his cabinet profited at any way from the \$1.9-billion deal. The campaign to choose a new plane was conducted by Air Canada, with no involvement or interference from the government. The decision to buy from Airbus rather than its American rival, Boeing, was made by the board of directors of Air Canada on the recommendation of airline officials, with no input whatsoever from me or anyone else in the government. Airbus was chosen because its aircraft were clearly superior to Boeing's for Air Canada's needs.

Not once did Mulroney speak to me about Airbus. Nor did he ever show the slightest interest in the competition. If Airbus Industrie paid commissions to agents on the A-320 sale to Air Canada, none of the money went to any official or minister in the government of Brian Mulroney. The "scandal" was concocted by Boeing, a sort loser, which spread baseless rumors

about its own sales tactics. It was spread by certain "roundheads" and others who were not prepared to let the truth interfere with their single-minded pursuit of Mulroney. They were the Wild West hyenas—recognizable and out of control. The act of scandal was fertilized by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, which conducted an incompetent and superficial investigation, leading misguided and uneducated allegations to the justice department, by the commissioners of the RCMP, who failed to supervise the government investigation, by the top officials in Justice, who neglected to vet the letter before it was sent to the Swiss, and by the person or persons who leaked the letter to *The Financial Post*. Above all, the "scandal" became a SCAM-DAL because Justice Minister Alan Rock, driven by 24 Swiss Swiss dancing in his head, became part of the lynch mob.

The only casualty in this disgusting episode was the innocent victim, Brian Mulroney, who was left to repair the rents in his reputation caused by the media hyenas and by the sly, willful gang of Liberal chandler assessors.

Air Canada Airbus: the justice minister was part of the lynch mob

course of which he was said to have received \$5 million in bashes or kickbacks paid through a bank in Zurich. "The investigation is of special importance to the Canadian government as it deals with criminal accusations by a former prime minister," the letter said. It was signed by Kimberley Pratt, a justice department lawyer.

What was going on? I had served as Mulroney's cabinet for nine years. I knew Brian well, and I liked and trusted him. In the later years of his prime ministry, our families became closer as he became less and less I couldn't believe a word of the allegations against him. I didn't believe a word of it, because I knew better. The so-called scandal centred on commissions or kickbacks as levied upon in connection with Air Canada's purchase of 84 A-320 medium-range jet aircraft from a European consortium, Airbus Industrie, in 1989—at a time when I was minister of transport, the minister responsible for Air Canada.

There was no "Airbus After." There was no scandal. There was no improper lobbying. There were no kickbacks. Neither Mul-



SPAIN by BREAK

A STOPOVER IN SEVILLE CAN SATISFY A PASSION FOR THE MOST PALATIAL OF LIFE'S TREASURES

The capital of Andalucía is arguably the most beautiful city in Spain. Its hidden delights and unique character are joys shared by its people and its visitors.





Canadian pharmacy: the health ministers will meet at Anexay

"half-baked" pre-election plan. Dashed a former health minister, Jim Wilson, called on Ottawa to restore support for existing programs before meeting the provinces to set up new ones.

Just 10 per cent of Canadians—mostly those who are self-employed or who work for a small business—have to pay more in premiums or subsidies than others. But low-income families pay without anything, says Mike Fawcett, spokesman director of the National Anti-Poverty Organization. Most private plans charge premiums or deductibles, and provincial insurance schemes for welfare reciprocates the elderly charge their fees. The overall result, says Powell, is that many low-income earners go without prescriptions they need to maintain their health.

Cost-cutting measures and advances in medical techniques are also resulting in patients being seen outside hospital earlier than ever—within hours of surgery. Many then switch to care for pay drugs that would have been provided without cost in the hospital. "Prescription drugs are becoming essential services," says Rele Behar, a University of Toronto health analyst.

While changes in health care delivery place new demands on insurance providers, many of these services are not covered by government funding. Until recently, home workers spent most of their time cooking meals for the elderly and looking after patients with long-term disabilities. Now the focus is on acute care functions such as administering chemo therapy, trading to infected wounds and looking after patients recovering from surgery. Those services are largely unregulated, and the amount of government coverage varies from province to province as well between municipalities. As a result, says Diane Waller, executive director of the Ottawa-based Canadian Association for Community Care, many home-care workers are performance procedures for which they are not properly trained. "They are concerned," she says, "that patients may not be getting the right person at the right time."

Chapman could end up with a watered-down version of the Liberals' original concept of a program to provide prescription drugs and home care. Alternatives to fully funded, government-run pharmacare include a partnership with private insurers, or a program that includes some user fees. According to the pharmacare, a 25-per-cent user fee on an increase in spending by health care would add \$1.5 billion a year while the "fair opportunity" for insurance pharmacare. Consumers can expect "lots of posturing on all sides" when the ministers start discussing specific early next year, says Lewis. Whether there is any agreement, he adds, will depend on "the political climate, the fiscal climate and probably the alignment of the stars."

Given the obstacles in setting up such an ambitious program, Chapman's apparent reticence is perhaps understandable. A study done for the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association of Canada concludes that a drug plan funded entirely by public money would cost governments an additional \$4.1 billion a year, thus doubling the \$3.5 billion they now

spend on 30 per cent. The savings would be achieved under a program in which the federal government decides which drugs are medically necessary, drug companies write limited formularies into their products to patients and prescribing practices were carefully monitored to eliminate waste of drugs. It is even with all its benefits, Lewis cautions a fully funded, universal plan may be impossible to achieve. "It is not doable," he says, "unless there is very strong national control."

Back in a long way from achieving consensus, Andie from the lack of an informed support, he finally goes up to speak with his own doctor. The physician, instead of referring him to another rough \$1 billion a year to its health and medical transfer budget—currently at \$2.7 billion—for the next four years. But that does not take pharmacare or insurance needs into account, and although Finance Minister Paul Martin expects to balance the budget next year, there are already heavy demands on any surplus.

Given the fiscal facts of life, pharmacare's best hope may lie in the bottom line. Before the 2004 election, the government committed itself to explore both sides. In August, Jack, who took over the Health portfolio after the election, told doctors he had no idea where the money would come from. In mid-September, after meeting with the provincial health ministers in Fredericton, he called the programs "existing possibilities" that are "very much in the exploratory phase." The speech from the throne, setting out the government's agenda at the end of September, referred only to the need for a plan to give Canadians "better access" to prescription drugs and to "protect" those who used home care. "We're still very much in the early stages," said a health department spokesman last week. "There is no identifiable target date."

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'Keyhole' surgery

A new bypass technique keeps the heart beating

Six months ago, Albert Basiuk couldn't take a walk around the block without feeling tired and out of breath. The 50-year-old Ottawa civil servant often stopped on the stairs, but put off going for a check-up until his doctor suggested he should undergo the cold, difficult procedure to close the bypass. "I expected I would have a heart attack, lengthen my life by the rest," says Basiuk, "so I guess I just stuck my head in the sand." In April, the 60-year-old Basiuk—a father of three—was sitting at his desk one morning, hospitalized, he underwent surgery. June 27. Within two weeks, Basiuk was alone again, back at work, and did not long later he was doing things he had not been able to do for nearly 10 years. His wife, he is helping a neighbor renovate his cottage, Basingher and daughter with a shovel. And later in month, the sons will visit his brother aboard a 36-ft boat for a 2,500-km journey from Halifax to the French Virgin Islands to visit Caribbean "All in a matter," he says. "The first life in the last bus."

Basiuk and approximately 230 others like him in Canada saw the big changes in their lives by becoming new beneficiaries of bypass surgery. The procedure, invented in Canada by Dr. Maurice L'Allier of the University of Ottawa, has become a standard of diagnosis and a tool of choice in Montréal, Toronto and London. Once the procedure requires just a four-inch "bypass" incision on the left side of the chest. Dispensing with the need to open the chest cavity by sawing through the patient's sternum and pulling apart the rib cage, the surgery reduces hospital recovery to as average of four days from the usual seven or eight following the more invasive bypass technique. But perhaps more important, the new method allows the heart beating, eliminating the need for patients to sit on a heart-lung machine that pumps oxygenated blood through the body.

"For us, the most important issue is saving the heart-lung machine," says Gil, who first used the new technique in July, 1995, and now does an average of one operation a week. Although personally regarded as safe, operating with a heart-lung machine can produce such side-effects as temporary or even permanent memory loss or cause a need for blood transfusions. Instead, Gil and his fellow pioneers are stabilizing—small suction devices that keep a small area of the outer wall of the heart dry while they graft on an artery.

Surgons can only use the keyhole procedure in less than 10 per cent of coronary bypass operations—those involving a single artery on the relatively easily accessible

Stent insertion device held the stent in place



front part of the heart. But Gil predicts that technological developments will eventually make the keyhole heart technique general in virtually all bypass surgery. According to Canadian Cardiac Society vice-president Dr. Hugh Souley of Toronto, the advance comes at a crucial time in the fight against heart disease. Currently, 45 per cent of deaths in Canada are due to heart disease or stroke, and each year more than 30,000 heart surgeries are performed nationally. "It's time of greater innovation and improved therapies and exciting fields, that number is likely going to increase with our population aging," says Souley. As for Basiuk, he has become an advocate for the surgery that gave him a new lease on life. "It accomplished it to myself," he says.

DALIE REISLER in Calgary

Health

Drugs and money

BY ANITA ELASH

Health Minister Allan Rock has not exactly responded on his government's pre-election promise concerning fully funded national pharmacare and home-care programs. But so far he has taken about them. The more it sounds like they might be a long time coming. Before the June election, the government committed itself to explore both ideas. In August, Rock, who took over the Health portfolio after the election, told doctors he had no idea where the money would come from. In mid-September, after meeting with the provincial health ministers in Fredericton, he called the programs "existing possibilities" that are "very much in the exploratory phase." The speech from the throne, setting out the government's agenda at the end of September, referred only to the need for a plan to give Canadians "better access" to prescription drugs and to "protect" those who used home care. "We're still very much in the early stages," said a health department spokesman last week. "There is no identifiable target date."

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Can Ottawa deliver on its promise of a national drug program?

MICHAEL S. COOPER



*At home
in Toronto:
ighting
neighborhood
battles*

An urban legend

BY SANDRA MARTIN

The late afternoon sun filters through the autumn leaves and casts a mound of Tyler pudding, a concoction of eggs, ground dried sugar, miff, and a little flour, baked in a pie crust. At 87, with her white hair and her long, loose body shrivelled in baggy trousers and oversize sweater, Jacobs could pass for a kindly cabbage patch grandmother, if it were not for the magpie-like eyes behind her horn-rimmed glasses.

Like the Festival death Miss Marple, Jane Jacobs watches, picks up bits and pieces of information, and then makes sense of the world. Except she does it for real, in books such as the cult classic, *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*. The lessons from that book—that cities are ecosystems that can be understood by rigid, authoritarian planning; that being, lively sidewalk life is a pre-requisite for safe, healthy places; that good urban design intersects work, housing, and recreation—have influenced a generation of planners and architects since it was first published in 1961.

Jacobs smiles and nods her head in satisfaction at the mention of Tyler pudding. "It's got a family history too," she says, explaining that the recipe was given to her mother as a young maid in 1889 by her new mother-in-law, along with the advice, "Do make it for him after I'm gone." Tyler pudding became a family tradition, and now Jacobs herself is turn-around 87. The pudding will be mass-produced and served on Oct. 18 at the closing banquet of "Jane's Walk," a month-long celebration of her work as an urban activist, grassroots economist and moral philosopher. "The Walkers," she says of the Toronto event, "The way I look at it is that it's kind of an excuse for a lot of people to get together who ought to know each other and ought to know what each other's doing."

Billed as an "international gathering to create and share knowledge," Jane Jacobs' Walk that Matters begins Sept. 28. It celebrates that week as an angular mix of lectures, films, publication of a book about her life, dances, walks, debates, exhibitions, conversations, performances, community events, even nose-booking down the city streets. Her

manuscript computer crunk up and then sort through a million or so file cards, cross-referencing here, double-checking there before delivering an answer that is often one, elegant and usually irrefutable. Does she think that Miner is turning her into an icon rather than a person? "That's absurd," she retorts after a reflective pause. "I'm not an icon and I know I am. And I'm a person and I know that too," she adds and helps herself to another mouthful of Tyler pudding.

The person who is Jane Jacobs was born in Scranton, Pa., on May 4, 1916, a year before the United States entered the First World War. After high school she trained as a newspaper reporter and began working as a reporter on the local newspaper. While the Depression was gripping the U.S., she moved to New York City, sold a few articles on working districts of the city to *Life*, and decided at age 22 to go to Columbia University. She lasted two years and went back to working as a writer and editor.

In 1944, before the Second World War ended, she married Bob Jacobs. That was a marriage of failed devotion that lasted more than 30 years and ended with his death from cancer in 1976. "She's like this," she says simply. It was Bob's work as an architect that led her to read the monthly magazine *Architectural Forum*, and then to work there. First as an associate and then as a senior editor. An article on downtowns for *Forums* magazine caught the attention of The Rockefeller Foundation, which offered her a grant in 1958 to write *Death and Life of Great American Cities*.

"I was like somebody had taken blinds off my eyes," says Toronto architect Eberhard H. Zoller of the *Zoller Roberts Partnership*. "I began to think about the way people react to city environments. It made a tremendous amount of sense." Colin Vaughan, former architect and alderman, and now a political reporter for City-TV in

bar there—certainly anything that relates to livability, human ecology, self-organizing systems, economic life and the social fabric. There is not one rule and it came from Jane Jacobs herself no strings.

The notion of a gigantic Jacobs-style happening was hatched in a conversation early in 1994 between two less-lesser-known planners: Alex Broadbent and former Toronto mayor John Sewell. Jacobs agreed as long as the celebration was self-financing, non-profit and focused on her work, not her. Public transit consultant Mary Rose was invited to co-convene. Now, Rose is worried that Jane may be running low into a celebrity and "she will have to stop." Says Rose, "She told me she decided years ago that you could be a celebrity or you could write and she decided to work."

Jacobs works where she lives in a three-story brick house in Toronto's Annex area, a tree-lined residential pocket on the edge of the University of Toronto and half a block from the heart-beat of Bloor Street. The house was built at the turn of the century, but its interior design dates from the early 1970s when Jacobs, her late husband Bob Jacobs (an architect), and their two kids, Ned, Jeremy and Maggie, made it their home.

The dominant ground floor space is an open concept dining-room and kitchen. Guests inhabit this room, making their presence felt in the lengthening shadows. Around the table, people have plotted to stop the Spadina Expressway, entire family histories, and lyrical about how to live and work or this planet. Here, too, Jane Jacobs has sat reading stacks of newspapers, scissors at the ready to clip the latest examples and telling anecdotes that she sits atop like tiny erug gold patterns that define economic and social behavior.

Interviewing her can be daunting. Questions hang limply in the air, like yesterday's balloons, while she thinks through her responses. It is like watching a

A month-long event celebrates the singular work of Jane Jacobs

neighborhood fight because she cares about her family and her community—there is nothing wrong with enthusiasm.

She writes books for a different reason. Writing is her form of thinking. "My first book, *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*, was about very small-scale things—neighborhoods and streets—the immediate things and what you learn from them," she says in slow, deliberate sentences. She never mindfully sets out to teach the reader; she copies emanating from a pencil dropped onto a will post, but last is what has happened. "You might call it an organic growth of books," she says.

"I got a subject that I care about," she goes on. Thus she collects information. At some point it seems to enter a pattern, but how or why she can't say. She is very suspicious of the pattern because it is easy to plot on things that stand against the things that do not. "I would seem to be a wonderful place for building great cities," she often says by way of example. "Look at Manhattan, look at Hong Kong. Then you think of all the islands that don't have great cities and then you say, 'What's the offense?'

Death and Life logically leads into thinking about a city as an economic unit. —The *Economy of*



Drive under authoritarian command and control management policies. "I wish I'd met her years ago," says the man known as Mr. Visa. "We have a tremendous amount to talk about."

Jacobs started with the importance of sidewalls and critical-use neighborhoods to the health of the city, and Block with barriers blocking the spread of a universal credit card—the banks that issue Visa cards are fierce competitors, yet if they were going to persuade consumers around the world to use the card and merchants accept it, they needed to co-operate on marketing and payment exchanges systems. Both Jacobs and Hack imagined complex systems in which collaboration and co-operation continue to ways that are coherent and cohesive and yet diverse.

Block calls them "chaordic"—a word he coined to describe an entity that is simultaneously chaotic and orderly. The most concrete example of a commercially successful chaotic organization is Visa, a \$1.4-billion enterprise, growing annually at more than 20 per cent, in which 28,000 financial institutions in more than 200 countries co-operate to serve 2 billion consumers. Where Visa falls short is in its universal metaphor that it involves only one network and it operates in a manner that is not necessarily socially beneficial.

Block is missing ideas because of scheduling problems. "I'd like to be there," he says. "This audience would understand what I'm talking about."

**With future
husband Bob
at her long-time
family garage**



Cohen (1969) said that made her wonder "how cities affect other places and what happens to the economy in a rural setting and to other regions that don't have cities." So that became *Cities and the Wealth of Nations* (1984). These books attacked the supply and demand development theories of the academic establishment and argued that cities have always been the creative centers of cultural economic strength. They found a supporter in Robert Lucas, the Chicago economist who won the Nobel Prize in 1995. As far back as 1988, he declared his support for Jacobs' work on the economic value of human skills and knowledge—but a economists call human capital—especially in the way groups of people interact within cities.

Jacobs' most recent book, *Systems of Survival: A Dialogue on the Moral Foundations of Power and Politics* (1992), begins on the last chapter in *Cities and the Wealth of Nations*. Essentially, she is saying that human beings manage their conflicts in two radically different ways. Like all the other animals, human beings scavenge, grab what they need, and defend what is theirs; conflicts of the other animals, though, they also trade and produce for trade. As a society, humans are made up of guardians (or defenders) and traders, and both groups operate according to entirely separate, but equally valid systems of moralized behavior. In *Systems*, she posits out the distributed problem that corporations, foundations, and governments must grapple when they consider purchases and trading issues in what she calls "moralistic hybrids." Public subsidies to business and finance are examples of government getting into things which are basically commercial and market monopolies of them, she says.

An unusual admirer of Jacobs's work is Don W. Heck, at Presidents, Calif., founder of VISA International. A former banker and a whiz at writing screenplays, finally retired, Heck and Jacobs intersect well enough to know each other's thinking and in their music understandings that cities and corporations are complex systems that cannot

and I think I could have given great validity to Jane's work. The problem—and I've been through that—is that you are alone."

Maybe loneliness is an occupational hazard for some theorists, but nobody's more rootedin the community than Jane Jacobs. "When I first heard of her," says Zellier, who has been a friend for 20 years, "I had the idea she was a divinity, and then when Tom [her son] exchanged cooking recipes. Sure the work is lonely because—you are alone with your concept and you have to work it out—but she has very warm person and it is that that perspective that she sees the world."

Meanwhile, Jacobs lives alone in her compact west Etobicoke home, part-time partner in a high-tech firm in Toronto making ergonomic cutting tools and loupes. Ned is a single composer of children's songs in Vancouver, and Bangs is an artist in Newmarket, Ont. All are married with families and none of them care. As with children, so with books: "You write a book and you send it out in the world and it's got to look after itself," she says. Does her brother fear that his sister's books, most people only know the first one, Death and Life? No. "The main reward any books give me is the luxury of being able to figure out something that I'm not a missionary or evangelist. I'm just a writer and I like to understand things. If my books are useful for other people in understanding things, that's fine. But it is just nice that one can stop injustice, oppression and ideologies like urban renewal or slum clearance. It is people who live to live that."



OF COURSE, SOME DISCOVERIES ARE GREATER THAN OTHERS.



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Montreal, movie capital

BY BRENDA BRANSCOTT

The late great auteur of the Montreal *Caravane*—legendary figures like Claude Léveillé and Jeanne Moreau—would probably have been dumbstruck if they had caught a recent glimpse of the Montreal Forum. Outside the building along LaSalle-Claude Street was an urban campground, with tall-erecting the block. The building's interior, abandoned by the Canadiens last year for the new Molson Centre, sported a housing ring at the centre and signs自卑ing the "Atlantic City Arena." Moviegoers won't remember hockey's most hallowed shrine when *American* director Brian De Palma's macabre mystery *Snake Eyes*, starring Nicolas Cage, hits the big screen next year. The Hotel du Prince, long a local landmark, has been transformed into a place that celebrates art just because it is a fine fine-deco sibling of the film's flesh predators, a lounge played by John Beard, host of *Bachelor Cup* (conservatory sex and blue rocket) who drops in from the orchestra, along with guest American flag. The movie's Montreal-based production designer, Anne Philibert, is no longer there, but she says that working with a beloved and unexpected like "My God!" "I thought, 'We've changed the Forum!'

The takeover of the Forum—now renamed to become an entertainment complex—may bode ill for scenarios for legitimate blues fans, but in clear-eyed economics terms, it is a boon for Montreal's burgeoning film and television industry. A Paramount Pictures production with an estimated budget of \$155 million, *Snake Eyes* is being touted as the most expensive movie ever made in Canada. Whipping up the end of October, it is injecting about \$75 million into Montreal's sluggish economy. It is also a pivotal project for a city that is trying to catch up to Toronto and Vancouver in attracting American productions. During the last few months, a production boom in the Montreal area has brought in *Cape Fear*, *Mission: Impossible*, *Olympus Has Fallen* and even the once-gate-crashed dinosaur *Barney's Big Bounce*. In town is helping it along is *Avatar*, which is kind of a *flagship*, says André Léonard, Montreal's film and television commissioner, who notes that regardless of shooting in the city he tingled since *Snake Eyes*: "It's making the city



De Palma, Cage: the city is now the third production centre, after Toronto and Vancouver

more appealing in terms of monetization."

Not for nothing is Montreal's monetizing capacity less over time in doubt. For decades, the city has yielded scores of feature films, TV movies and series—most of them for foreign audiences. Over the years, dozens of European co-productions and U.S. projects have also been shot in the area, including the features *Once Upon a Time in America* (1984) and *Apocalypse Now* (1975), but the influx of Hollywood producers came to a complete halt in 1990—

even as Americans, lured primarily by a favorable exchange rate that allowed them to save as much as 30 per cent, were flooding into Toronto and Vancouver.

Léonard attributes the decline to the fact that the city was spending less and less to attract Hollywood, and that various grants offered in the local industry had failed to adapt a more efficient approach to promoting Montreal. He left that ground entirely to Toronto and Vancouver, Léonard says wryly.

Montréal appears to have rectified the problem. In the past five years, film shooting—mostly American, and mostly TV

movies of the week and feature films—is steadily increased, reaching \$86 million in 1999. Domestic production, particularly for TV (which accounts for 70 per cent of Montreal's activity overall), is booming as well, especially with the proliferation of specialty channels. Last year, both foreign and domestic producers spent a record-breaking \$425 million on entertainment programming and commercials in Montreal, placing the city third behind Toronto and Vancouver.

De Palma's apparent enthusiasm for the city may help boost production. At a recent news conference at the Forum for *Snake Eyes*, which Cage plays a detective trying to assassinate at a boxing match, the film-maker was so enthusiastic about his crew and the film's thousands of extras, who cheered when he and the cast entered the former arena. "This is a real town," says De Palma. "This is not like a public relations agency. We have nothing but positive things to say." Other Americans that stow their crews, who draw leads for tapetoe shifts, also are pleased for enthusiasm. Jay Cohen of Los Angeles recently spent his first Canadian shoot held at the Laurentians and Old Montreal as co-producer of *The Beastie Man*, a film starring

Diane Lane and Anna Paquin. Cohen Cohen: "The caterer had read the script and had questions about it, creatively like, 'Why would the character do that?'"

Montreal's wide range of locations is also a drawing card, with nearby mountains and water, and a city filled with modern architecture and older buildings suitable for period production. Cohen says his company, French Productions, a partnership with Denis Hoffman, considered nine states and Toronto and Vancouver before deciding on the Montreal area for the movie, "which is not in New York's Colabida in 1989." "Every set we needed was here," says Cohen, including the Montreal as a stand-in for Brooklyn. Locations are also less expensive, according to Cohen, who paid \$14,000 a day to the Laurentians for use of a road and a watermill at a public park which his production would have cost \$22,000 or \$30,000 in the United States.

Montreal continues to be the country's centre for independent film and TV production, which comprises most of the activity. But the city is also a popular backdrop for non-local Canadian producers. Toronto-based filmmaker Brian Tichy, who recently shot the TV mini-series *The Sheep Must Go*, notes the number of virtual buildings means a wider than normal choice of location. "My sense is we can get better deals on buildings in Montreal right now because there are so many more buildings available in Vancouver and Toronto." The flip side to the building production activity in Montreal is that crews and actors are harder to book, according to veteran Montreal filmmaker Robin Spry, president of Telesize Film Group Inc., which produces *Student Jason*, a sitcom that recently debuted on the Fox, Global and YTV networks. "In a way we've become victims of our own success," says Spry.

Léonard expects Montreal to make \$825 million this year. He is currently trying to line a larger project to the city, but will not divulge many details. Seeing it in light of Old Montreal, Léonard lowered his voice, as if industry spies were hovering outside, and explained how discretion is essential in the Beverly competitive industry. He recalls how a U.S. producer once visited Montreal to check out locations. On his way home, he was intercepted by three people—convention, in Lafontaine's words—at Dorval Airport. The trio, who later turned out to be location managers, convinced the American to stay over in Toronto, where the project eventually got made. The film cameraman's voice does not bring any anger. His apparent equanimity is understandable—the cameras continue to roll in Montreal more fervently than ever.

A time of polyester principles

Two movies flash back to Seventies decadence

BY BRIAN D. JOHNSON

Dark, eight-track tapes, progressive rock, dicey sex, cocaine at the workplace, polyester leisure suits with gaudy cuffs, and shirts with gaudy cufflinks: the Seventies are back with a vengeance. Or so it seems at the movies. Perhaps Quentin Tarantino started it off by lifting John Travolta's carousal out of the chapter in 1984 with *Pulp Fiction*, or by splicing sound tracks with bands like Stealers Wheel and Kool & the Gang. Now, in a new millennium, the Seventies suddenly seem to writer. There will always be nostalgia for the naive freedom of the Sixties, the age of allegedly infinite possibility. But the Seventies are the aftermath decade, the era that picked up the pieces, and in its retro but reflective American filmmakers have found a moral emptiness that seems oddly relevant to the present.

To new movies, *The Ice Storm* and *Boogie Nights*, longitudinal studies culture so specifically that they encompass images of the time almost through the characters. Though radically different, both films are stylized comedies of manners with tragic overtones. And both are stories of betrayal, about characters who in sexual license lose them to the brink of the abyss. *The Ice Storm* focuses on loveless, self-swapping parents and their lost, sexually confused children. Eloquently directed by Sean and Jennifer, Aug. 12, it carries the moral weight of the Seventies with cool, contemplative hindsight. *Boogie Nights*, a splashy sex-and-factory winter directed and produced by 35-year-old wonderkid Paul Thomas Anderson, is a wild and woolly saga of the '70s porn industry. The film is so immersed in the excesses of the decade that it could almost be a product of it. Featuring Mark Wahlberg (formerly rap singer Marky Mark) as an amateur young porn star, it unfolds as a 2001 Night of the American Dream, a major catastrophe—shattering—into decadence.

The two stories place on the middle-class fringes of the landscape, like the traps through family values in *Boogie Nights*. The story, based on the 1996 novel by American author Rick Moody, revolves around two Connecticut families and is set in November, 1973, just as the Watergate scandal is heating. Ben Ben (Mark Wahlberg) is in the midst of an extramarital affair with his neighbor's wife, Jenny Carter (Suzanne Vega), but she is rapidly losing interest and that brings Anderson to conspire into a relationship. And Ben's love-struck wife, Thom (Jean Allen), is silently beginning to suspect.

As the adults act like adolescents, their children are trying to become instant adults. Wendy (Christina Ricci) is only 14 but manages to get the parts off both the boy and girl door, Milly Carter (Julia Wood), and her dad, kookster, Eddie (Adam Landry), a bumbling psychopath who likes to blow up his toys with cherry bombs. Wendy's older brother, Paul (Paul McCrane), is hoping to score with a rich girl from his prep school in the city.

Their parents, meanwhile, converge in a wife-swapping party—filling plastic bags full of cootie keys into a bowl, and at

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As a new millennium looms, the Seventies seem to matter

the end of the eighties' literary decades who go home with whom. But vaguely involving in the wings, and as anyone turns herm/hers/himself to play, the story takes a dark turn.

Last extracts precious performances from him, although the characters often seem so move that the sum of their attitudes like roles or chip manufacturers to play the stickler's husband and pedantic father when trying to act normal. As the hardened sexual appetites, Weaver is efficiently dominating, with a look that could have been borrowed from Jane Fonda's cell girl in *Rape*.

But it is Joan Allen who stands out. In the wronged woman, she emerges as the drama's brittle emotional centre. And here—in *Missa* and *The Cradle*—she acts with a raw mix of resilience and vulnerability that goes straight to the pit of the stomach. The children also strike a nerve, conveying a blinding precocious sexuality without resorting to cattiness.

What is annoying about *The Jet Set*, however, is how methodically it tears our signifiers of the Seventies. In just a few minutes of screen time, there is Paul smoking that stink from a giant pipe. Now he's TV saying he has some tapes that will shake up Jane lying on a waterbed reading Philip Roth, and her husband talking about some new semiconductor called silicon that somehow said.

The script—by Ang Lee's longtime producer James Schamus—was a joint at Cannes. But although it captures the expense of Bloody's novel, the writing spills out its last transmission—clearly Lee, who grew up in Taiwan, portrays The American with the same curiosities that he brought to Jane Austin's England in *Sense and Sensibility*. But as the drama darkens in the second half, he finds emotional power in spare, crystalline images—the Oriental beauty of tree limbs shrouded with ice, or a man wheeling over a frozen pool.

Canadian composer Michael Daems accents the minimalism with the bare-boned sound-Madeline American funk and Indonesian gamelan. Daems also scored Atom Egoyan's *The Sweet Hereafter*, which bears a resemblance to *The Jet Set*. Both films are muted adult fables about lost children and tragic accidents involving ice. But *The Sweet Hereafter*, which seems eerily suspended in time, is the more mysterious and profound film. While *The Jet Set* charts the slippery slope of moral misadventure in

the Seventies with applications care, it still just sits along the surface.

Boogey Nights does not go very deep either, but in this case that seems to be the point: to make a virtue of shallowness. In this way, however, *Boogey Nights* chronicles the breakdown of a family—the extended family of a porn entrepreneur. The story, very loosely based on the life of late sex star John C. Holmes, takes place at a time when makers of X-rated movies considered them-

shame self-parody in recent roles (notably Shylock), Reynolds family seems in charge playing this Zorn of shame.

The actual director, Anderson, displays prodigious talent. After making one small feature (*Blowin' Eighth*), with *Boogey Nights* he attempts a sprawling panorama of a school year on the scale of *Alfred Hitchcock's* or *Scorsese's* *Gangs of New York*. The film's non-stop carnival of period trash. And without showing a lot of nudity, Anderson succeeds in



John C. Reilly, right, whiles away the party industry's efficiently cheezy atmosphere and maine depresso

selves at the cutting edge of some ill-defined revolution. It was the pre-AIDS era. They were still making films, not videos. And some of them went about it with a sense of pride that seems sweetly naïve in retrospect.

Wolberg is impressive in the role of Edie, a boozey and past-time male prostitute who changes his name to Dark Diggler and becomes a charismatic porn star. Not only does Wolberg, like some Calvin Klein poster boy, prove his cox act, but his is a fully developed character. In every sense—in the end, he even carries the evidence of Derek's phallic endowment on the side of a profane member). But Reynolds, meanwhile, gives his strongest performance in years as Jack Horner, the poofily ditherer who recruits Dark. Reduced to just

evoking the deliciously cheesy atmosphere, and music, dekul, of the '70s porn industry—which starts to look like a pop-culture encyclopedic of the decade as a whole.

But unlike Altman and Scorsese, Anderson lacks a compelling vision. And as the narrative stretches to 2½ hours, his intoxicating style wears thin. The may characters, such as porn princess Amber Waves (Julianne Moore) and sex-act little Bill (Willow M. MacL), remain underdeveloped, all addressed with numbers to go. Still, there is enough brilliance—including drag-queen adagio showtunes that outdo *Turandot*—to make it worth sticking around for the end of the party. And nothing could be truer to the Seventies than a party that goes on too long. □



Revenge of the nerd

BY BRIAN D. JOHNSON

He's a clumsy, neurotic, obnoxious, self-servicing doof, an Englishman with a child's mind who is flossed out by the most basic chores—getting dressed, driving, eating or navigating a public washroom. Mr. Bean also happens to be one of the most popular pantomime characters to straddle onto the screen since Charlie Chaplin's Little Tramp. And for Rowan Atkinson, the 42-year-old British actor who embodies Mr. Bean, playing a helpless lone has provided an enormous windfall. *Bean*, the movie, which opens in Canada this week and in the United States next month, has already grossed more than \$10 million at the international box office, a record for a movie not yet released in North America. Bean's runaway success "came as a cold surprise," Atkinson told *Maclean's* last week. "The always had great fun in this character. But it never crossed my mind that he should be very well known by Germans—I never thought I would entertain Germans on stage."

The voice on the phone from London is weary, arthritic, polite and articulate, a voice that is hard to imagine coming from the malfertilized mouth of Mr. Bean. But Atkinson is

The first Mr. Bean movie breaks box-office records

no intellectual slouch. Like the best British adults who founded *Beyond the Fringe* and Monty Python's Flying Circus, he was educated at Oxford University. He studied electrical engineering, but found his vocational calling as a comedian. And at Oxford he teamed up with writer Richard Curtis, who would become his laughter collaborator. Together, they helped launch the BBC satire *Not the Nine O'Clock News* in 1983. And in the 1980s, they created the TV series *Blackadder*, a sophisticated historical farce that ranged from the War of the Roses to the First World War—with Atkinson in the title role as a pigheaded, upper-crust wench.

Atkinson seems to have a special knack for playing snobs, misfits and pathologically maladjusted individuals. Co-starring with Jeff Goldblum in *The Tall Guy* (1990), he portrayed a crass and conceited stand-up comic with alarming conviction. And in *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas* (1998), he was priceless in the role of a pastor preceding over confessions with a speech impediment.

Bean, however, remains his most popular incarnation. He and Curtis created the character after Atkinson's one-man show at the Edinburgh Festival in 1979. Curtis was "bored with writing words," the actor recalls. "And Mr. Bean was the person I naturally became when called upon to perform an entirely visual routine—it started off with the idea of a man who had trouble staying awake."

The character seems to be the flip side of the all-too-proper English doof, a reincarnation to the stiff upper-lipped ego. Bean is compulsive, neurotic and insanely dedicated to his own immediate needs. But he gets so lost in the details that he can't even keep control of his body. Bean's comedy seems to lack the essential English reserve that keeps everything from sliding into chaos. "He has been to the right schools," says Atkinson, "but I've always thought of him as a 10-year-old boy trapped in a man's body."

In the 1990s, the character graduated to television, where Mr. Bean became the highest-rated comedy series in British history, with a 60-per-cent audience share. Although there are just 15 episodes in existence, they have entered a kind of permanent orbit. The original *Star Trek*. The series has been broadcast in more than 80 countries, and seven new edition videos have been sold

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around the world. In Canada, the series has been a big hit on the CBC. "He's more popular in Canada than almost anywhere else," says Atkinson, "except perhaps Germany." Last year, making a public appearance as Mr. Bean at Toronto's Eaton Centre, he was greeted like a pop star by a crowd of 3,000 screaming fans. The recognition was "more than I ever imagined," Atkinson observed at the time. "It's all either too rock or roll for me, mate."

In this narrow land, meanwhile, Bean is still the target of the diabolical in certain quarters. "The more educated classes have decided he's the least-savvy comedy character ever created," says Atkinson. "There was really quite a lot of extremely dismissive criticism of the movie in some of the broader, more intelligent newspapers. But that wasn't so much about the movie as about seven years of pent-up frustration over the popularity of a character they'd never enjoyed."

There is one country, however, where Bean is not especially well known: the United States. Although the series has appeared on cable and video, it was never picked up by the major networks. And the movie is an obvious attempt to expand the franchise to a U.S. audience. "We did have the American market in mind," continues Atkinson, "and setting the movie in America makes a lot of marketing sense, but that wasn't the main motivation for taking him out of his traditional grey London suit-and-we need to get out of that just to provide ourselves with creative inspiration."

In the movie, Bean is an art gallery employee who is shipped off to Los Angeles with the painting Whistler's Mother—and is mistaken for an important art scholar. His character measurable, underwent an upgrade for the big screen. "We wanted to make him more three-dimensional than he ever was on television," says Atkinson. "We had to soften him somewhat to make him more real. He seems to have a warmer heart and a more optimistic view, but I believe when he goes back to London, he will behave as naively and endearingly as before."

Moving Bean solo was also a departure. For most of the movie, he remains alone, but there is a pivotal scene in which he gives a speech at the unveiling of Whistler's Mother. "We had to get him to talk," says Atkinson, "because if he didn't

it would become a movie about the fact that the central character doesn't talk. It was the most difficult speech to write, because he has never really spoken in constructed sentences."

It remains to be seen if Atkinson will warm to Bean. Atkinson himself seems aware of his shortcomings, saying, "I think we've got an OK grade vegetable on the time. It's all either too rock or roll for me, mate."

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Atkinson and wife Connie and Germany above Bean

A half-baked Bean goes Hollywood

BEAN

Directed by Mel Smith

The funniest scene in the movie is over before the opening credits. It shows Mr. Bean tanning an electric shaver over his chin, his choices. Then his friend, his nose and finally his tongue. Like for work, he dunks a moist instant coffee directly into his mouth, followed by water, beer and milk, flavoring them all together. As the movie progresses, there are other funny bits, quite a few of them, such unfolding as a self contained playlet of artie physics comedy. But there is a problem with Bean—and Bean himself, played in the usual boor by rubber-faced Rowan Atkinson—but the Hollywood-style movie that hangs on him like an off-tightening clown suit.

Expanding a television sketch into a feature film can be a dodgy proposition, as the producers of *Saturday Night Live* know all too well (Witness *The Coneheads*). The wit of the Mr. Bean sketches depends on their wordless brevity and uncompromised anarchism. But the big-screen Bean, a kinder, gentler Klutz, actually transforms himself into a heroic figure. And, like a brief version of an adopted alien on a TV station, he is plucked into clutches of family: David (Peter MacNicol), the naive and amiable father; Alison (Penelope Reed), the snappy, bird-headed mother; plus a sultry teenage girl and a cute little boy.

For the first time, Bean has a job, at an English art museum. Anxious to get rid of him, the museum director sends Bean to deliver Whistler's Mother to a Los Angeles gallery that has bought the painting for \$30 million. From the moment Bean steps on this plane, he wreaks havoc. David, the curator of the California gallery, assures that he is a disgruntled, if eccentric, art scholar and invites him to stay at his home, where he makes more noise. And the viewer knows it is just a matter of time before Whistler's Mother will be grossly violated in Bean's incompetent hands.

Patents may be outraged that the usually mute Bean gives a four-minute speech (at the unveiling of the painting). But the comic tension builds up to that scene—Bean speaks!—punctuates one of the film's richer moments. What flattens the movie is its attempt at cozy Hollywood formula. British screenwriters Richard Curtis and Robin Cookson have gone out of their way to mimic an American comic style—especially in the unlikely sentimental buddy relationship between Bean and his hapless American host.

No matter where he is, Mr. Bean is an alien. Here, however, he leaves truly adult. For Bean-heads who simply cannot get enough of him, the movie may prove irresistible, if only as a fresh source of sketches. But the Bean, refined California-style, seems stale.



Rowan Atkinson
David, Alison, Bean

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Books

The past imperfect

A family saga raises questions of racial identity

ANY KNOWN BLOOD

By Lawrence Hill
HarperCollins, 812 pages, \$39

Langston Case V, the enigmatic protagonist of Lawrence Hill's second novel, is a man who has handled his glowering heritage. He can look back over generations of black clergymen and doctors to the original Langstons, Case, who escaped slavery at Virginia by fleeing to Duluth, Ga., before the American Civil War. Langston Case V, however, is a deeply unhappy misfit—achieve, a hack speech writer for the Ontario Ministry of Wellness, serving a Mike Harris-like government at despatch. Composing the oppressive weight of family tradition is the fact that his mother is white, and Case looks so ethnically indistinct as to confuse affirmative action officials and race-baiters alike. In a world where almost everyone Case encounters catalogues themselves and others by race and class origins, Case is a lost man.

It is Hill's subtle treatment of the contemporary abomination with group identity that gives *Any Known Blood* its power. (The title is taken from established Southern law codes concerning Negro status on property with even the smallest trace of African heritage.) The Case is not interested in attaching himself to any larger group. He does not care that his black relatives find him a little "washed-out" for their taste, and he seems to have no contact at all with the white side of his family, other than his mother. Instead, he believes that the key to his own individuality lies in his family's past.

An HIV+ family writer, satirical novelist, open, Case is newly divorced and estranged from his overbearing father, who is hostile to his interests in the family saga. He is also thoroughly frustrated by his job—possibly he was wounded through government employment equity policy by claiming to be Algerian (fabricated by a secret cabinet proposal to dislodge the province's human

rights legislation, Case sabotages a routine speech by his minister—keens to the writing staff as Pilot for his unconvincing adherence to whatever text he was presented with—by inserting a short denunciation of the plan.

After both the minister and Pilot are fired, he returns to Oshawa for one last try at gaining his father's support. But Langston IV



With a native of tribulation and a moving story of self-discovery

carries on as normal and, in one of Hill's loveliest phrases, "ug soul walked out the back door of the house." Langston V heads for Baltimore and the house of his Aunt Millie, keeper of the family archives.

And what a story those papers provide! Hill, a creative writing instructor at Ryerson Polytechnic University in Toronto, drew on the history of his own prominent black family for *Any Known Blood*; his satirist father was a chairman of Ontario's Human

Rights Commission and the author of several black history works, while his brother is insurance Dan Hill. The author traces Case's family tree, starting with his parents' lives, back to the ancestor who has always been the centre of his obsession—the fugitive slave who, with abolitionist Julia Brown, left the safety of Oshawa in 1851 to join the road to Harper's Ferry, W. Va. *Any Known Blood* documents 150 years of little-known black experience on both sides of the Canada/U.S. border. At the same time, Hill's characters remain deeply realized creatures who exert a strong empathetic pull.

From Case's parents' postwar struggle with Canada's postwar but very real discrimination through his grandparents' difficult courtship and his grandfather's horrific childhood, Hill often nuanced descriptions without a trace of bitterness. The details of their lives are often wrenching, sometimes terrifying—from the daily humiliations of segregation to a fiery cross from the Ku Klux Klan—but Hill never sanctifies Case's ancestors nor demonizes their white contemporaries. Quaker abolitionists are given their due, while the ills of black prejudice are laid bare. Case's grandparents were almost forced apart by, of all things, religious bias (Case's father was Catholic, he was Methodist), and Langston IV, so quick to dismiss any racial slight, is consumed by a secret dread that his younger son, Sean, a gay

disengaged with the story of the generations in Case's daily life in Baltimore as he chooses down the leads provided by his aunt's papers. The novel's kindest portraits describe his interactions with another outsider, Yvonne, a refugee from Cameroon. Yvonne cannot comprehend Americans' continuing interest in race, and scarcely feels any difference between whites and blacks in matters that interested her. North American slavery, for instance, leaves her unmoved, especially given the reminders that Yvonne remembers—this incredible American product called Javert and another called Wader.

The paper trail eventually leads Case to a hideously displaced sketch by the original Langston. The document alters the prevailing family myth but, more important, for his grandfather-grandson, it includes an eerily familiar self-portrait that finally reconciles Case to his family and to himself. As once a satiric look at racial identity and at shadowing family saga, *Any Known Blood* is ultimately a moving novel of self-discovery.

BRIAN BETHUNE



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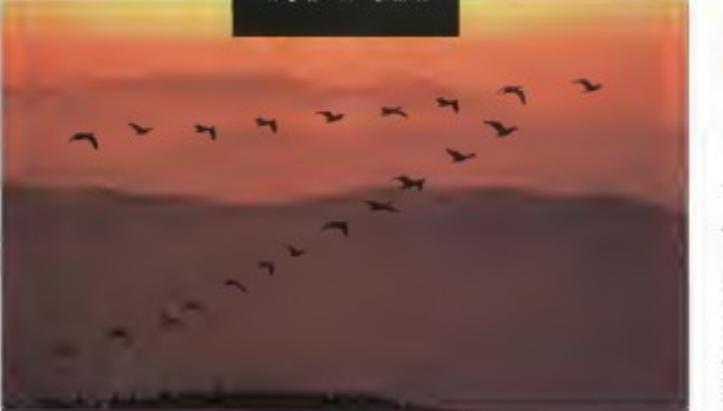
Her Life and Legacy

Canadians remember
their princess

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BOOKS

Birth of the beat

When Canada became a pop-music hotbed

BY JOHN MACLACHLAN GRAY

**BEFORE THE GOLD RUSH:
FLASHBACKS TO THE DAWN
OF THE CANADIAN SOUND**

By Nicholas Jennings
Viking, 252 pages, \$32

The responsible critic cuts his produce of the top, and frankly, upon scanning the dust jacket of

Before the Gold Rush, Nicholas Jennings's solid primer on the Toronto Yorkville music scene of the 1960s, my biases fall off the lectern-teller. Way back then, I played Marimba and had a Nova Scotia R and B band called The Lascivians. In our view, those who couldn't sing played guitar; those who couldn't play guitar played bass, and those who could do neither because it can barely type the words without gear gear — Johnson, Yorkville was where the Johnsons came from.

I was never part of that magic place and time, but I once took the train to Montreal (1962) if you set up to hear Randy & the Big Band at the Esquire Showbar. Nearly was a club called the New Paradise, where I once heard a Yorkville group called The Stoney Clowers. They were awful.

Late in the set, Leonard Cohen joined the group for one of his little digressions. The Poet had come. Then, in case, The Poet sang a quarter tone flat, later, I saw him holding court at The Bistro, purring "How you suffered" into the ear of a chick with seven-toed boots and long Mitchell chevronlines. Another Johnson.

The way it looked from back East, the Yorkville scene held no conceivable warrant. Sessions bartenders who hired an agent before they knew how to turn up. So, as you can imagine, I tracked *Before the Gold Rush* with a secret, more Upper-Canadian, appreciation. Another chest-thumping from the city that gave us the original Edith Piaf.

It might as well have ended there. Here's a partial list of musical entities that sprang directly or indirectly from some hole near Hazelton Avenue: The Band, Steppenwolf, The Maraschino & The Pumas, The Lovin' Spoonful, Blood, Sweat & Tears, Neil Young, Gordon Lightfoot, Joni Mitchell, Rick James, Bruce Cockburn, Buffalo Springfield. In &

Sylvia, Murray McLachlan. Those tritely Yankie folkies sprawled a phenomenon, thanks to them we can now mouth the words "Canadian music," without automatically thinking of Don Messer.

Jennings has a nose for the resonant, iconic. Did you know that Ian Tyson, the singing Marlowe Man, had been a commercial artist who once designed the logo for Revlon shampoo? Or how about the one in which

you crossed and the chip was a gash. In fact, we can credit Jimi Hendrix urge to scold, we owe a real debt of gratitude to someone named Cathy Smith, who later administered John Trudell's last hours for sexual services the confederate spent an arrevering poker officer that asserted a drug conviction against The Hawks. Had the chess stars stuck, their successor, the legendary group The Band, would never have existed. They also see who's never read.

As Jennings pointedly observes, it was all an era when Canadians could profess some of the most vital pop music in North America and not get heard on Canadian radio — let's of colonial life involving the track and barrel. Consider Radio television and Telecommunications Commission: The built-right devices poised to go forward leading to Canadian content regulations. On our 1980s cell phones, freedom will only antagonize most users. It's used to recall the telecorporation chicanery that can never be "protective" as far as what the Canadian Association of Broadcasters had to say about Canadian music during a week when Americas Played, by The Guess Who of Wainwright, stood No. 1 on the chart. "There is, at present, a definitely insufficient supply of domestic recorded music. Canadian material, as we know it, varies widely in quality."

Believe the Gold Rush. But the following documents, isn't it? As a wordsmith, Jennings demonstrates that underneath tendency to the telepathic consciousness endemic among artists, in which unconventional bands "go nowhere fast," postage notes are inevitably "bold," and The Maraschino & The Pumas "sing their hearts out." In all instances, this was, like, I mean, you know, not the most verbally articulate, and there are, only so many ways to describe someone whacking a guitar. But by page 150, we prove for a surprising turn of phrase, in vain.

The book is the more curious in its story structure. Beginning with Ian & Sylvia, the narrative runs like a train, picking up passengers one by one, tracking their interactions, creating an underlying sense of accumulation and concatenation, which, as it were, grows and thaws on gradually and cross-pollination. Come, God help us, Maraschino. Thus, a shared sense of community created a golden opportunity which in turn created a unique culture whose contribution will last a long time, a civilization all too hard to find up north, as the early morning ones, where the winds blow lonely in that culture of distance, unscripted voices, calling. □

John MacLachlan Gray, writer and composer of the musicals *Hilly Ridge Goes to War* and *Rock 'n' Roll*, writes a column for *The Vancouver Sun* and makes a still playful *With The Band*.



Michelle with Galt in 1967: Toronto's Yorkville area gave birth to dozens of acts

singer David Clayton-Thomas sat in at The Riverboat with the legendary blues outfit John Lee Hooker, then chauffeured Hooker to New York. But when they arrived in the Big Apple, a prostitute while Hooker leaned into his car, he took off after her, leaving Clayton-Thomas reading around Greenwich Village, looking for work. He landed up a spot at lead singer for Blood, Sweat & Tears.

Jennings is also to be congratulated for capturing the swinging finger over sex and drugstore toilet, where drugs were hot, sex

Love in the limelight

IN THE WINGS

By Carole Corbeil
 (Stoddart, 280 pages, \$29.95)

They exist in every major city in Canada, and in a few of the smaller ones. Most are underfunded, struggling and more than a little weary. But the country's alternative theatres are also home to some of the liveliest, most innovative artistic projects going. They turn out new Canadian plays, introduce out-of-the-way foreign ones, and occasionally invent new life into an old masterpiece. For many theatremakers interested in productions that catch something of the volatility and intensity of the current age, they are the place to be.

Such a theatre provides the focus for Carole Corbeil's brilliant new novel, *In The Wings*. The Phoenix—the name is fictional—is situated in the centre, down-the-hill Queen's Plateau area of Toronto. Corbeil, an arts journalist in that city and author of the warmly received debut novel *Homeless* (1993), has a long association with a real-life theatre in the same neighbourhood. She has served on the board of Theatre Pascale Monette, too, with one of its former artistic directors, Clarke Rogers (who died tragically young at 48 in 1996) and is currently married to one of its veteran actors, Layne Colleen. In fact, *In The Wings* is saturated with such an intimate knowledge of Pascale Monette's affairs (in every sense of that word) that no doubt many in the Toronto theatre community will read it rapidly as a memoir.

But while the narrative of real people drifts through its pages (one former Toronto to theatre critic gets a particularly nasty drubbing), the novel's imaginative vision far transcends its origins. The book opens in the early 1990s, at a time when the Phoenix is facing huge setbacks to its grants, a mounting debt and absent central casting. Its artistic director, Jovine Taiton, decides to risk all on a production of *Hamlet*. For the lead role, he chooses a charismatic, gifted and very eccentric young actor called Alton O'Reilly Gertrude. Hester's mother, Alice, has played



Carole Corbeil
In The Wings

Passion on and off the stage makes for a brilliant, enveloping novel

by Alice Reveron, a fortyish woman who once acted with Sir John Gielgud when she was an ingenue in London. The complicating factor is that, offstage, Alice and Alton are lovers. Devastated by the recent death of her mother, Alice has taken on Alton as a voice, and quickly falls in love. But her tender ministrations cannot assuage the raging insecurity of her lover. Propelled to alcohol and drugs, he seems programmed to stow both himself and the production towards disaster.

In the novel, Corbeil has fashioned a language that conveys her keen powers of observation and analysis—so familiar from her journalism—with a sensuous, empathetic evocation of her subjects. There is no sentimental description in the novel. Instead, every object or situation in which Alice and Alton find themselves, the raw feeling through the dark and sly—becomes a living part of

the characters' psychological weather. It is as if Corbeil, like so many of the best contemporary writers, has found a stylistic way to break down the old split between object and subject, mind and body. That is partly why reading *In The Wings* is such a great pleasure. Even when the novel rummages in such diverse subjects as suicide, marriage and the Canadian climate, the rich dance of Corbeil's language creates a single, enveloping experience.

She also writes with great sensitivity about the craft of acting. To stage, actors are skilled in, fraudulent characters without proper jobs. But in her evocation of the rehearsals for *Hamlet*, Corbeil shows that their task can be as demanding as those performed by doctors or constitutional lawyers. Faced with bringing Shakespeare's wild play to life, Alice and her colleagues must make instruments of themselves, drawing on their deepest reserves of intelligence, feeling and gut instinct. And in the end, having done their best, they are utterly vulnerable to the whims of critics and audiences. As Alice reflects, "Being at the mercy of others was at the very core of what it was to be an actor."

And yet the reward for this exposure is, at its best, a thrilling sense of engagement. For Alton, this comes, in part, a confirmation with the intense power of Shakespeare. In one of the novel's inspired riffs, he considers, "There are bits in Shakespeare that are like eyes opening an animal in the wild—the surprise of it, the awe of feeling kinship outside one's species, the gratitude in finding a truth intact after all these years."

The book has one major flaw: its portrait of drama critic Robert Poldenauer. At first, he is credible enough as a man whose loom intelligence is considered malignant by his peers. But Corbeil soon makes him the vehicle of her per diems, and he degenerates into a megalomaniac buffoon, neither touching nor hating. In the end, she tries to redeem him, but that comes across as a sentimental attempt to endle a positive note.

It is not needed. Though the tale more or less triumphantly, Corbeil's art is fundamentally affirmative. *In The Wings* is not just a book about the theatre, but a splendidly depictions of the universal struggle to find and make use of what is most genuine in human experience.

JOHN BEGROSE

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Lost soul, lax tale

WHERE SHE HAS GONE

By Nino Ricci
 McClelland & Stewart, 222 pages, \$29.95

Nino Ricci, if you never knew a great deal about sadness, his new novel, *Where She*

Has Gone, is astounded with melancholy, a sense of loss that runs well beyond the ability of anything in the story to explain it. By the time the book ends, its narrator, Victor Incerote, is a barefoot case who has fled to Africa to nurse his wounds. Victor's journey

to this impasse has been a long one. Ricci describes his origins in his first novel, *Lawn of the Saints*, which won the 1980 Governor General's Award for fiction, became a Canadian best-seller and was published to great acclaim internationally. That book evokes Victor's childhood in an Italian village, his mother's scandal-plagued conjugation and her death on the boat to Canada. Ricci's next novel, *In a Glass House* (1995), describes Victor's youth on a farm in southwestern Ontario, as well as later adventures—including a stint as a teacher in Africa. Compared with *Lawn*, *In a Glass House* was poorly received; many critics and readers judged it opaque and rather flat.

Now with the publication of *Where She Has Gone*, Ricci's trilogy is complete. Clearly, there are those who feel the Toronto-based author, 58, has returned to top form: the novel has been nominated for the \$25,000 Giller Prize. But although it is stronger than *In a Glass House*, *Where She Has Gone* is a fumble compared with the *Lawn* of *Saints*. The main problem is Victor himself. Serious, sensitive and self-effacing, he might make a loyal friend, but as a narrator he is about as interesting as song. In fact, a narrator this colorless is only tolerable if he becomes a window through which more vivid characters can be seen: a character, for example, like Victor's mother, a fountain of energy whose presence animates the very landscape in *Saints*.

In *Where She Has Gone*, the only person qualified to become such a focus is Victor's moodily sex-crazed half-sister, Rita. They have been raised in separate households, and as the novel begins, are suffering re-acquaintance in Toronto, where Rita attends university. Brother and sister are profoundly dangerously attracted to each other, but just when amorous becomes interesting, Rita runs away to Europe. Her disappearance is indicative of a fatal leadership in Ricci to avoid the dramatic consequences of his own story. Time and again, he shifts focus away from what is crucial and sets something minor. By the time Rita re-enters Victor's life, the emotional fluids are in the Italian village where he was born, too much of the novel has fallen prey to a narrative megalomaniac, a fixation of character and situation.

At the same time, Ricci gives enough evidence of his skill to make the reader lament what might have been. He has a gift for evoking the essences of human relationships: those muted silences and gestures that say more than words ever can. And his evocation of Victor's native village is compelling. But there is an evasion at the centre of the book. Victor implies that his despair has been caused by the loss of Rita, the truth, however, is that he is a depressive, and no number of Rita could save him. The main source of his unhappiness may well be his mother's death, a possibility that Victor and his creator seem scarcely conscious.

JOHN BENROSE



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Allan Fotheringham

The lineup to replace Jean Chrétien

Last night, as we know, it seemed as if it had to come out as reveal. A student of French politics delights to examine the statements of politicians as they sweep and roar, twist around corners and go down infallible tracks and, like this, it's a wonderful chase.

Frank McKenna says he has had such a thrilling, exhilarating time as premier of tiny New Brunswick that he couldn't even imagine how being prime minister of Canada could equal it. And so, one is supposed to conclude, he isn't even slightly interested in the job. This is what the lefty would call a left-handed rictus headed for the sole pocket. It's a non-dinner dinner.

Always leave a loophole. Never say never. There isn't a politician in the realm who hasn't changed his mind. Trudeau wasn't going to bring in wage-and-price controls. Macdonald hated free trade. Chrétien was going to kill off the GST. He doesn't. McKenna has left himself an opening.

An oldie, Chrétien, the only man in Canada who can't speak either of the two official languages, stubbornly hangs on, the Brutes upstairs gather behind the curtains, preparing their move. The PM wants, like her Launes, to take the country into another century. His party knows that his disastrous election toll has reduced a massive majority into a perilous five-seat margin in the Commons and so the putative successors already are lining up delegates to some future leadership convention, are getting pledges for financial support from the right people, are positioning the reserve in the proper politically correct mode. Here's how it lined up at the moment:

PAUL MARTIN. Still the PM-in-waiting, a young Reform MP has so aptly dubbed him. Wants the job so much he can taste it every morning as he wakes up. His job as minister at Chrétien's clamorous, just-as-B. Mulroney's acolytes spent years developing, Joe Clark, Martin's apparent easy road to ascension has produced a disconcerting habit. He rules as the only strong man in a mediocre cabinet that has resulted in a rather arrogant, even overcilious, tone in Question Period when he exhibits obvious delight in putting down the overrager newscasters across the floor. As his loss relates to leave, he faces the Anthony Eden/John Turner syndrome—too long

on a shelf in the closet and the public may grow bored with the act.

ALAN ROCK. Supposedly out of the dangerous shadows of Jean-tie-gang control, the Mulroney Airbus fiasco—and safe in the more-fleeting Health portfolio so as to restore his reputation. But the embarrassing news of the taxpayer's new million misadventure going to Mulroney \$600,000 for public relations brings Rock's good luck into the headlines. Not a good career move.

PETER PETTIGREW. The oft-Montreal back-for-a-sleeper Obviously well-known, dropping with charm and like stage Tarnas as "Tarnas" for the flyaway burlesque of his looks. The two-ridiculous of that country were demonstrated when reporters asked him—as with other important people—where he was when Paul Blondonard scored The Goal. Tarnas had no idea what they were talking about.

SHERIL COPIE. Will run of course. And will lose of course. Can't kick the strident snarl. Or the initial thing "I'm in charge" bone. But will have support, will have money, a formidable campaigner with her own brand of both French and liaison. Has energy to burn. Could be the king maker (queen-quake?)

ANNE McLELLAN. Rising star Justice portfolio gives her fresh exposure. Cool, competent. As with most women who rise in Canadian politics—July Lalonde, Anna Campagnoli, Barbara McDougall—she is single without the annoying baggage of husband and children. Her Alberta base, in non-liberal Western Canada, a handicap.

JANE STEWART. Another face not too familiar to the Canadian public yet. New century may bring new thinking. Comes from good political pedigree, father being Robert Noon, former Ontario Liberal leader. Tall and stately, has good TV presence. Marti, as with McLeellan, by political press roundabout with a female candidate after the Kim Campbell experience. No fact, but, as John Reardon taught us, life is not fair.

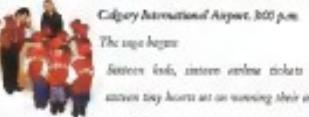
BRIAN TUBIN. Martin's most dangerous opponent. Captain Canada would be asked, of course, by PC. Hanging on to the very end. Would make Marché look a little sheepish. Would give Admiral Turbot time to consolidate his bid as premier of B.C.'s Bay and Hibernia of resources the profit Newfoundland economy Notice how the Noddy rouge—while a St. Patric in Ottawa, as noticeable as John Crisler's blouse—has completely disappeared now that he wants to appear just-Canadian? He has an son his son Wins only 25 when first elected to the Commons. Will be a mere 43 on his birthday next week.

The reason politics is almost as exciting as sport is because no one knows what is going to happen. Which is the reason so many sportswriters become political columnists. There is the same speculating, the same high-sticking, the blind-side body checks. It's just for higher stakes.

If a bus runs over Paul Martin, McKenna will be back in there.



HOW THE GAME OF ICE HOCKEY WAS INTRODUCED TO THE COUNTRY OF SOUTH AFRICA.



Calgary International Airport, 8:02 p.m.
The tape begins
Sixteen kids, sixteen online tickets and
sixteen toy horns are all awaiting their international
hockey tournament in Copenhagen.
Links did I know, the stiff competition would be Murphy's Law.

Copenhagen, 8:02 a.m.

"Our luggage is delayed!" I cried. "It's crossing somewhere via...South Africa," the airport clock exploded politely. "Thought you were in South Africa," I snorted through clenched teeth.

Lars' Sporting Goods, 10:00 p.m.

Nineteen to us, the shopkeeper was pleasantly surprised to see an exotic hockey team being outfitted with brand-new equipment. But he was dead calm compared with my kids, guys who rippled through the new gear like it was fire-hydrants all around. As I watched them I checked my body score for Visa Gold card's purchasing power. I never thought I'd have to use it, but there again I never thought I'd need half the added benefits that come with my Visa Gold card. I guess the best defense is offense.



against Murphy's Law is never say never. That said, just as I was knocking a stick of relief, young Jenny, or Rocket as he prefers, tapped on my ear畔 talk.

De John's Office, 2:00 p.m.

It turned that Rocket's dubious mobile regal was strategically stored in his hockey bag which of course, was somewhere over Africa at this point. I called up the Visa Gold hotline and they gave me a list of English-speaking doctors. Rocket got his shoulder re-fueled and we headed for the stick.

Copenhagen Sports Arena, 6:00 p.m.

As the kids took to the ice and I removed the few remaining price tags from their helmets, I celebrated our first victory—we had beaten old Murphy. And the first star of the game, la première étoile, was definitely my Visa Gold card. But then again, I guess that's why they say "it's the only card you need."



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